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All your Apple needs

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THE BEST
MAC TIPS
& TRICKS**

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Finder & more!



> **Mac > iPad > iPhone**

> **Issue 229** January 2011

MACFORMAT ESSENTIALS

**84 PAGES
OF ADVICE!**

The UK's no.1 Mac magazine

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in iPhoto**

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in iMovie '11**

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**Flex Time in
GarageBand**

How to stay in time, all the time



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- > MacBook Air 11-inch

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INVESTIGATED



Lion is coming!
Why you'll love the new OS X

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Welcome...

to MacFormat, the UK's No. 1 Mac magazine

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Using the new 11-inch MacBook Air is an amazing experience. There's something about its size, weight and shape that feels perfectly right. The new flash storage means it feels as nippy as an iPad when you use it, yet it runs the full OS X. Sure, I wouldn't want to have to design a logo in *Photoshop* on its tiny screen, but for writing articles for *MacFormat*, lounging around on the sofa or carrying to work in my bag, it's perfect. In fact, I'm going to be pretty upset when Apple phone up to get our review model back - I may have to pretend I've left the country. And as for living without a DVD drive? It's perfectly possible in the Wi-Fi age, and let's not forget you can always plug a SuperDrive into the USB port, so if you do need to install some software from a disc, it's still possible. Ditching conventional hard drives for flash storage doesn't change the outer appearance of a Mac, but it makes such a difference to the speed it runs. It's definitely the future for the Mac, and it can't be long before we see our first flash storage iMac or Mac mini.

You can read our full review of the 11- and 13-inch MacBook Airs on page 86 this issue. Join us next issue when we'll be showing you 10 things you (probably) didn't know your Mac could do. Don't miss it!



Graham Barlow, Editor-in-Chief
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twitter.com/MacFormat



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New operating system unveiled **p24**

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Deputy Editor



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Chris reveals his claws for his first look at the next OS X p29

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Reviews Editor



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Staff writer



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» Answers to your Mac questions

Start here for some simple solutions to Mac problems **p78**



» Discover the latest Apple kit

Read our verdict on new Apple hardware and software **p85**



» The best Mac & iPod products

Don't buy a new Mac until you've read our Buyers' Guide **p113**

iLife '11: The Ultimate Guide

Your essential guide to all the new features



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WIN!

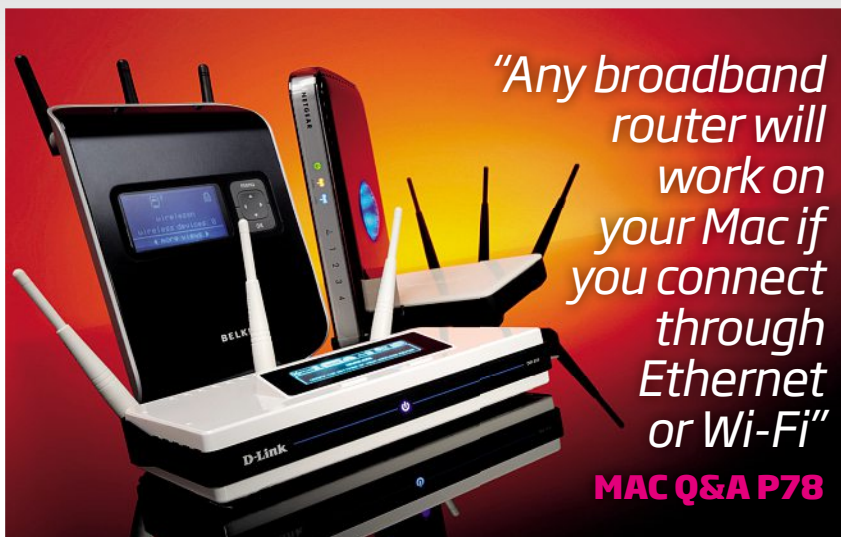
A Revo AXiS internet & DAB radio worth £200!



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>> ON THE DISC

> AppDelete 2.2.4

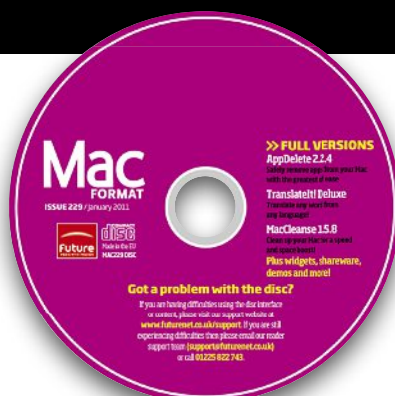
Remove apps from your Mac

> Translate it!

Deluxe edition language app

> MacCleanse 1.5.8

Clean up your Mac the easy way



>> WHY NOT ALSO TRY?

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Tap! The iPhone and iPad magazine.
Turn to page 107 to find out more!



Start up

► NEWS & OPINION ► INTERVIEWS ► GADGETS ► LETTERS



Apple Stores have contributed to a rise in sales of all things Mac.

Mac sales soar

iPhone, iPad and iPod mean the Mac matters more now than ever

Despite the focus surrounding the iPad and iPhone, the Mac is more important than ever. Apple is selling more Macs now than at any time in the past - it sold three times as many Macs in 2010 as it did five years ago. The Mac generated around 33% of Apple's revenue in 2010 - \$22 billion. On its own, Apple's Mac Division would be assessed as the 110th biggest company in the Fortune 500. This is a renaissance.

There's multiple reasons for this Mac explosion: Microsoft's failure to compete with an effective operating

system; PC makers' lack of attention to detail; Apple's chain of retail stores; the iPad/iPhone/iPod halo effect; the iTunes ecosystem; and even *iLife*.

All these elements have served to drive interest in Apple's computer platforms. This is made even more effective by the mass media attention surrounding the innovative company - it's no secret that Apple is a more widely used search term than Google.

Some Mac users complain Apple is putting too much focus on its mobile products, but the proof's in the eating: Mac sales have climbed 150% since

Q2 2007, when the company sold 626,000 desktop and 891,000 notebook Macs. Success breeds success: Apple sold 14.1 million iPhones in its last quarter. People who use them, like them. The effect is that last quarter, Apple sold 3.89 million Macs. Add iPad sales to these and Apple is now the biggest US PC maker.

Cumulative Mac sales for 2002 (the year after the introduction of the iPod) hit 3.098 million; for 2006 they reached 5.655 million. Compare this with Q2 2010, when Apple sold 2.943 million Macs in total. Apple is selling

» MORE NEWS



For even more on the Mac, iPod and iPhone visit

www.macformat.co.uk

» APPLE IN PICTURES / OS X goes shopping



» HOME & AWAY

German artist and Apple fanatic Johannes Osterhoff took a series of situationist images of a giant Home folder in unusual places. You can see more at <http://bit.ly/9a9X3G>.

nearly as many Macs in some single quarters as it once sold in a year. This is important. A recent Toffler Associates report informed us there's more than a billion PCs in use today, and this figure is set to double by 2014.

Apple has now captured 10% of the US market and is speeding toward 5% Mac marketshare worldwide. With a billion PCs set to shift in the next four years, Apple seems set to sell near 5% of these, even if it maintains current share. This equates to around 50 million Macs in four years - broadly in line with current sales levels.

IDC and Gartner reports consistently show Apple holds a growing slice of the PC market. Canalsys sees Apple as the top PC maker, but includes iPad sales within its market share figures. The Toffler Associates report also predicts that, in future, companies will be moving away from software as a retail commodity toward the App Store model.

"Companies will follow the Apple/iPhone model of creating value, not by creating products (in Apple's case, apps), but by hosting the marketplace and charging to connect consumers to producers."

This means Apple's move to launch the Mac App Store isn't just about bringing Mac software to a wider collection of consumers; nor is it altruism to boost developer fortunes by massively increasing the addressable market. It is a future-focused move that elevates the position of

software and services. "The Mac App Store will be the best place to discover apps," Jobs said, announcing the store. "It won't be the only place, but we think it will be the best."

"This will be disruptive to the traditional software distribution model," Scott Schwarzhoff of Appcelerator told Computerworld. Quantcast estimates that 10.9% of online users in North America are using Mac OS X. NetApplications also confirms this. Apple's VP marketing, Phil Schiller, says Apple has an installed user base of 50 million users. With the Mac App Store, Apple brings iOS-like casual software sales to them all.

By revenue, some observers think that Apple's building the world's biggest market for consumer-focused software, (see the Lion OS X feature, page 24). Given the continued interest in Apple's other products, this seems likely to generate even more interest in the Mac - an interest best illustrated by the fact that currently 50% of all Macs sold at Apple's

retail stores are to customers who are new to the Mac.

So counter to mobile device enthusiasts' predictions, the Mac matters more than ever. And there's even more growth to come. Deutsche Bank analyst, Chris Whitmore, says the iPad "is driving a rapid, unprecedented shift in the structure of the computing industry." IDC analyst Bob O'Donnell says: "The halo effect of the device also helped propel Mac sales." ●

» APPLE IN NUMBERS

11%

Apple has brought 11% more shoppers to Covent Garden

"The one constant with Apple, on which we could depend, was that its stuff was expensive"

Christopher Phin realises why he's happy but broke.



Apple talk

Who's saying what?

> Steve Jobs

www.apple.com

"We don't see USB 3.0 taking off at this time. No support from Intel, for example."

Claimed CEO email says no to USB 3.0

> Steve Jobs

www.apple.com

"A great release of Final Cut is coming early next year."

Apple is expected to ship 64-bit Final Cut in 2011

> Gartner

www.gartner.com

"The iPad looks set to become a market-disrupting device, such as the iPod before it. Even if you think it is just a passing fad, the cost of early action is low, while the price of delay may well be extremely high."

Analysts say it is an iPad world

> Kevin Lynch

www.adobe.com

"There's this negative campaigning going on, and, for whatever reason, Apple is really choosing to incite it."

Adobe CTO on the iOS Flash wars

> Mark Zuckerberg

www.facebook.com

"The iPad is a computer, not a mobile device."

Facebook chief shares his smarts

Have you heard any great Apple quotes? Email us at macformat@futurenet.com

>> IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The price is alright

Christopher Phin



You know that thing, when some massive geological event occurs - a landslide, a thousands-of-tons hunk of ice breaking off a glacier, an avalanche - where it's on such a colossal scale that you can scarcely perceive it happening, even though it's in real time? You know it's big, because the scene looks all wrong, but your brain is so unused to seeing things happen on such an epic canvas that you can't quite grasp what's going on.

I feel a bit like that with Apple just now. And not because of the iOS phenomenon, or because I find its current success unsettling. No, it's pricing.

The one constant with Apple, the one frame of reference on which we could depend, was that its stuff was expensive. 'Good', usually. 'Good value', frequently, taking the long view. But 'pricey', always. And yet. When the iPad was introduced, pundits had been making noises about it being a 'sub-\$1000' computer, and this was seen as quite a foolhardy thing to say. It was half that.

When the MacBook Air got its recent revision, the world looked at it, decided it was lovely, and,

"Your brain is so unused to seeing things happen on such an epic canvas that you can't quite grasp what's going on"

with trepidation, clicked through to the Apple Store to see how much it cost. Used to the MacBook Air being shocking bang for buck, I think we all did a happy double-take to see it starting at £849.

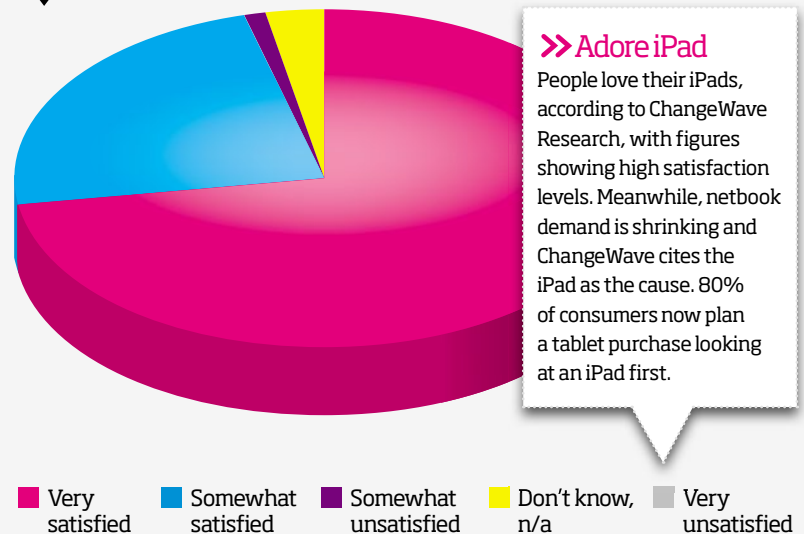
Now, only the most vulgar first-worlder would argue these were still anything other than substantial sums of money, but it's nevertheless notable that sometimes Apple's pricing is not so out of step with its competitors.

The iPad is especially interesting. One might expect someone to say "it's a bit more expensive than its competitors, but it's worth it"; in fact, devices such as the Samsung Galaxy Tab can be more expensive than the iPad, for a less well-built and smaller-screened device.

This may be Apple reacting to the economy, or re-evaluating profit and volume, but it has the potential to wreak as much havoc in the tech world as a geological event in the real world. ●

Christopher Phin our esteemed Deputy Ed by day and Editor of *Tap* by night is officially knackered, but has now doubled in value.

>> APPLE IN NUMBERS / iPad satisfaction



Skyfire in a Flash

New app sees Apple devices with more video

You can now watch Adobe Flash content on your iPhone, iPad or iPod touch using *Skyfire*.

At present only available in the US, the \$2.99 app generated \$1 million in sales in its first week in November. *Skyfire* requests the content you want and streams it to you. The work is done on *Skyfire's* servers, so you see no impact on your device's battery or performance.

Flash still seems unready for prime time on mobile devices. A review of Samsung's iPad competitor, the Galaxy Tab, claims Flash slows down performance of the competing tablet. Similar criticisms have been made of other

implementations of Flash on Android-powered smartphones.

Interestingly enough, Apple recently introduced MacBook Air notebooks that ship without Flash pre-installed. You can install it if you like, but Ars Technica found that doing so can reduce the MacBook Air's battery life by 33%, once a handful of Flash-using websites were loaded inside the default Safari browser.

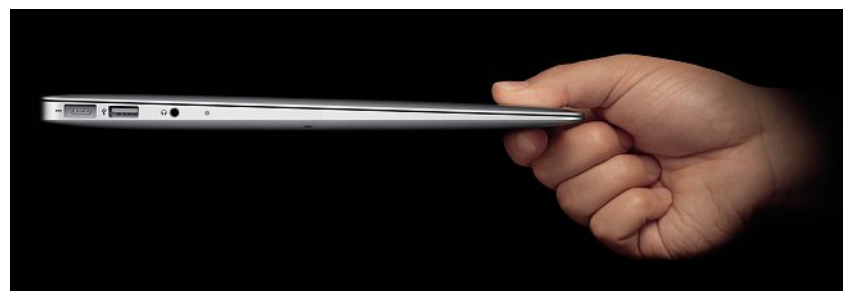
Adobe CTO, Kevin Lynch, said: "When you're displaying content, any technology will use more power."

However, displaying HTML 5.0 content had no major impact on battery life, Ars Technica reported. ●

>> APPLE IN NUMBERS

46,600

Number of Apple employees as of 25 September



MacBook Air: Apple's new wedged-shaped wonder doesn't come with Adobe Flash installed.

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>> ACROSS THE POND

Once Mac,
always Mac

Susie Ochs



My poor iPad. After the one-two punch of the iPhone 4's superior Retina display and the MacBook Air's delightful design and exceptional utility, it's gone from my prized gadget, a hands-down everything changer, to an electronic also-ran in a matter of months. It's still fun to play with, but my time with it decreases with every new product Apple puts out.

I was shocked, for example, at how quickly the 11-inch MacBook Air surpassed it as my go-to machine for web-surfing from the glorious comfort of my well-worn couch. Touchscreen web-surfing always was and still is a major selling point of the iPad, but the Air delivers a better experience in every way: multitasking including side-by-side windows; easy uploads and downloads; a hardware keyboard for no-look typing; a choice of full browsers with plug-in support including Flash player; and a bright, beautiful screen that stays exactly where I put it – no more awkward prop-ups against my leg, a stack of throw pillows, or an innocent cat. Those were tricky days...

"I was shocked at how quickly the MacBook Air surpassed the iPad as my go-to machine for web-surfing..."

The battery life isn't nearly as long, but still packs enough juice for marathon time-wasting sessions without needing to plug in. And the weight difference (0.33kg for the iPad 3G, and 1.06kg for the MacBook Air) is negligible when it's on my lap. However, I'm a little surprised Apple didn't include a 3G radio in the MacBook Air for getting online via cellular networks. But between smartphone tethering, mobile hotspot devices such as the MiFi, and the old standby 3G wireless cards, I never really had trouble getting my Facebook fix.

It's a strange position to be in, because I've always defended the iPad as a capable 'lite computing' device that could deliver the functionality of a netbook without being so cheap-feeling and flimsy. But then the MacBook Air came and blew it out of the water – at the end of the day Mac OS X can just do more. Sorry, iPad. Once you go Mac it's hard to go back. ●

Susie Ochs, Senior Editor of MacLife, based in San Francisco, is keeping it old-school with The Simpsons, Tetris and shopping for CDs.

>> COME TOGETHER

Apple signs
The Beatles

World-famous rock band finally on iTunes

After seemingly endless negotiations, The Beatles' back catalogue is now available on iTunes. Following an announcement on 16 November 2010, remastered versions of the band's 13 studio albums, the two-volume 'Past Masters' compilation and the 'Red' and 'Blue' collections can be purchased as digital downloads from the iTunes Store, either as complete albums or individual songs. For hardcore fans, there's also a special £125 digital 'Beatles Box Set', featuring all the studio albums, 'Past Masters', bonus material and a video of the 1964 Washington Coliseum concert, the band's first American show.

"We love the Beatles and are honoured and thrilled to welcome them to iTunes,"

said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO and long-time Beatles fan. "It has been a long and winding road to get here. Thanks to The Beatles and EMI, we're now realising a dream we've had since iTunes launched 10 years ago."

Sir Paul McCartney is equally upbeat. "We're really excited to bring The Beatles' music to iTunes," he said. "It's fantastic to

see the songs we originally released on vinyl receive as much love in the digital world as they did the first time around."

So what took so long for the two to come together? Apple Computer (later Apple, Inc) was involved in a

long-running trademark dispute with The Beatles' record company, Apple Corps, which was settled in 2007. However, Sir Paul has also hinted that distributor EMI was the real stumbling block, not The Beatles themselves. ●

>> APPLE IN NUMBERS

91%

iPhone sales climbed
91% in Q4

Stockwatch

A look at the world of Apple business with Clem Chambers



Apple's value as a company is touching \$300 billion: half the value of the latest US economic bail-out measure (QE2).

While governments think they create employment, it's actually companies that do this while governments create taxes, which destroy jobs. In any event, Apple's value is quite simply generated by

\$65 billion in sales. It's very rare for a company to be worth five times its sales. \$65 billion is a lot of sales. It's slightly less than the GDP of the whole of Iraq.

It's hard to believe, but Apple's sales are now more than the combined GDP of the world's 13 smallest economies. Even so, Apple's lofty valuation is pushing the limit of

corporate valuation and its stock price will likely rest around \$320. Meanwhile the stock is still being tipped as a buy.

With just a 15% rise needed to make Apple the US market's most valuable company, that seems a very bullish call.

Clem Chambers is CEO of ADVFN, Europe's leading stocks and shares website.

>>END OF PRODUCTION

Farewell Xserve

Apple ceases to manufacture its 1U server

Apple will cease selling Xserves from 31 January. During the gradual transition from Xserve, Apple will continue to provide warranty service and complimentary technical support for the product.

Introduced in 2002, Xserve was among the most affordable powerful servers around and managed to secure a good profile in the top 500 Supercomputer lists.

Apple will take orders for current Xserves until the end date; these will ship with a full standard one-year warranty, which can be extended to three years with AppleCare. The company promised to support all existing Xserve warranties, and said it would offer the current shipping 160GB, 1TB, and 2TB Apple Drive Modules for Xserves until the end of 2011 or as long as supplies last.

Shortly after the announcement, the XSanity forums saw a post appear, which was purportedly from Eric Zelenka, Apple's Senior Worldwide Product Marketing Manager for server and storage products. His statement was later removed, but the

post stated: "Apple remains committed to the development of server products, technologies and services. Today's announcement does not impact the future of Xsan or server software on Mac OS X."

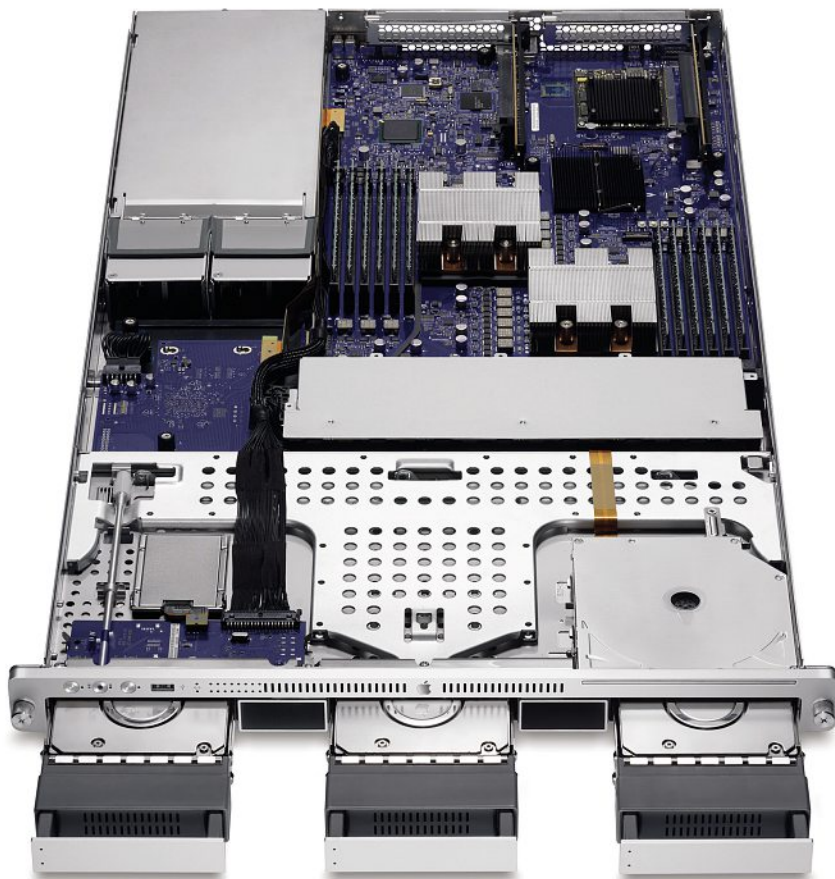
A note that was reported to come from Apple CEO Steve Jobs told a slightly simpler story; he allegedly said the Xserve has been discontinued because "hardly anyone was buying them".

If you want an Apple server, you can now purchase a server configuration of the Mac Pro, or the Mac mini server (which costs £50 less following a recent price cut). ●

>>APPLE IN NUMBERS

4.2m

The number of iPads Apple sold in its September quarter



HOT OR NOT?

The latest word from the Apple rumour mill

HOT: 64-bit Final Cut

Final Cut has become the leading solution for film and video pros - and it will be improved with 64-bit support. This will be a pro-video powerhouse, we expect.

HOT: Apple and Bluetooth

Apple has reportedly acquired small Bluetooth headset design firm Wi-Gear. Wi-Gear founder Michael Kim is now Apple's iOS Bluetooth Engineer.

NOT: Apple raising prices

Component cost rises may hit Apple's Taiwan/China supply chains, but we consider it unlikely that it will raise prices - it recently slashed Mac mini prices.

NOT: Apple buys Sony

Exciting as the rumour is that Apple may acquire Sony, we consider it unlikely, as a merger between the two giant firms would be fraught with tension.



Apple on TV



The Mac is ready for its close-up

World-renowned travel photographer Martin Parr used an Apple MacBook Pro during recent Channel 5 show, *How to Take Stunning Pictures*. Thanks to eagle-eyed reader, Anthony Cooke, for the tip.

If you've spotted a Mac on television, then email macformat@futurenet.com and tell us all about it!

Win! A Revo AXiS radio!

The ultimate internet, DAB and FM radio could be yours

Revo's stunning range of multifunction radios just gets better and better. This latest release, the AXiS, can receive DAB, DAB+ and internet streaming broadcasts, as well as FM radio with RDS.

It can wirelessly stream music from your Mac over your local network, and there's a dock for connecting your iPod or iPhone. It's fully shielded, so there's no need to put your iPhone into Airplane Mode to avoid interference. It can also access the online music service Last.fm, and includes a trial subscription.

The AXiS looks gorgeous, with a stylish matte black finish and a 3.5-inch colour TFT touchscreen display for the menu controls. It can wirelessly connect to your home network and looks good just about anywhere. Extremely versatile and easy to use, it's an

excellent one-box digital radio. And we've got three of them to give away!

The question

To stand a chance of winning one of these great prizes, just answer this simple question:

How large is the Revo AXiS' TFT touchscreen display?

- A) 2.5-inches
- B) 3-inches
- C) 3.5-inches

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>> HOW TO ENTER

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Me&MyMac

MacFormat readers share their beloved Mac setups

>> CONTACT US

Want to share your Mac setup with us? Send a photo of your kit to laurence.cable@futurenet.com

Epson Perfection 1250 scanner

This model's been around for almost 10 years and has been superseded by smaller and faster models, but is still fine for the occasional 1200dpi scan.

Wacom Cintiq 12WX tablet

This is a seriously fancy bit of kit – not just a graphics tablet, but one where you draw straight onto the display. Loved by designers.

M-AUDIO KeyRig 49 keyboard

For the musicians of the world, this is an affordable four-octave option. But it's the one bit of kit here that doesn't fit in the cupboard.



Canon Pixma iP4600

This five-ink photo printer can turn out high-quality photos and text, and doesn't take up too much space in Clifford's cupboard setup, either.

24-inch iMac 2.8GHz Core 2 Duo

When it was launched in 2008, this model sat atop the iMac range and is still a sterling performer with its sizeable screen.

Hide and seek

While most of us have our Macs out on desks, Clifford's got all his gear stacked vertically and hidden away in this unusual cupboard setup.



>> PROFILE

Name: Clifford Della Porta

Occupation: Retired

Been using a Mac for:

Almost two years

Favourite hardware:

Wacom Cintiq 12WX

Favourite software:

Mac OS X 10.6 Snow Leopard

Here at MacFormat, we like to spread the word about the wonders of using our favourite Apple gear, and the message has clearly rubbed off on Clifford Della Porta.

Having subscribed to MacFormat, some further recommendations from their friends led to Clifford and his wife making a trip to their local Apple Premium Reseller.

"We made an appointment with one of the staff there, which enabled us to appreciate key details of the Apple range," Clifford explains. This advice led to the couple plumping for the top-of-the-range 24-inch iMac. "The advisor then installed the applications we'd requested and booted it all up." And they've not been disappointed. As some of the kit in the picture indicates, the pair love their art and music, and the iMac forms the perfect

"The iMac is our favourite piece of hardware, because we can recognise text without any eyestrain"

centrepiece, bringing all their specialist creative kit together.

"The iMac is our favourite piece of hardware, because we can recognise text without experiencing any eyestrain," Clifford explains. "It has the screen area to share the Mac keyboard viewer with other windows. And downsizing the viewer means that I can use a stylus to produce text and give other commands, without getting wrist ache."

Artistry is clearly a big part of what the Della Portas use their Mac for. Clifford lists *GarageBand*, *Photoshop*

CS3 and *Corel Painter* as three of his favourite programs, and would love to buy *Logic Express* too. But the couple's use of the iMac doesn't stop there. They've embraced its other capabilities to the full. "We use it to keep in contact with family, friends and contacts worldwide," Clifford beams. "As well as being a thrifty means of helping us develop our art, music and photography skills, the internet is fantastic for making bookings, planning routes, buying things and accessing information."

And what about his interesting Mac-in-a-cupboard setup? That's the work of the advisor from the shop where they got the iMac. "Once we'd left the store, he became our personal tutor," says Clifford. "Between us, we've created an innovative and simple operation for a compact and unobtrusive setup." ●

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Interview: Graham Barlow

I use my Mac for writing comedy

Television comedian Dom Joly reveals his favourite apps and shouts at some Apple gear



>>PROFILE

Name: Dom Joly
Location: Somewhere dodgy abroad
Occupation: Pest
System(s): PowerBook G4 and iPhone
Web: www.twitter.com/domjoly

Dom is currently working on a film, has just written a book and has an iPhone app in the works, too.

MacFormat: Why use a Mac and not a PC?

Dom Joly: Stupid question. They are sexier, sleeker, shinier and better. I once kicked a sound man off a shoot for using a PC.

MF: What are your favourite or most-used apps and why? What do you use them for?

DJ: On my iPhone I use *Angry Birds*, *Fragger* and *Flick Football* to keep myself busy. I love *Scrabble* to play with my wife; I use a translator app quite a lot to help me out of sticky

situations abroad; and I also use a foreign currency converter a lot.

MF: Have you an iPad too? If so, what do you think?

DJ: I like the iPad but I don't need one because I have a laptop and iPhone already... but I'm sure I'll get one soon.

MF: Do you have a giant iPhone that you can shout into?

DJ: Yes, but it's charging at the moment. It actually sits in my downstairs loo holding my bog roll.

MF: What projects are you working on right now?

DJ: Well, there's my new iPhone app (search for 'Dom Joly' on the App Store); it's full of sounds and exclusive

photos. Plus there's my new book, *The Dark Tourist*. Also, I'm in development for a huge hidden-camera movie in the States.

MF: What's your new book *The Dark Tourist* about?

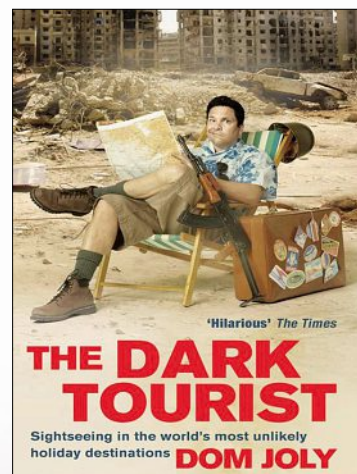
DJ: I go on holiday to the places most people would avoid like the plague - skiing in Iran, a weekend in Chernobyl, a coach tour of North Korea. It's a funny and informative travel book to places you probably don't want to go.

MF: What was the strangest place you visited?

DJ: North Korea. Imagine wandering onto the set of *The Truman Show* and then being taken on an intensive tour of every building in the centre of Coventry (the highlight was the Museum of Lathes).

MF: You're quite an avid tweeter. What do you like about Twitter?

DJ: I like to fill time when I'm sitting around waiting for the next thing to happen. I don't take any crap from trolls, however. ●



Living it up in the DPRK? It's not quite our idea of fun. Dom, however, has no such qualms.



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Gadgets

The hottest kit on the horizon.
Here's what Apple is up against



◀ WD Caviar Green 3TB

£195 www.wdc.com

What is it? It's the biggest-capacity hard drive yet. Three terabytes in a single drive greatly expands your Mac Pro's potential storage, or you can ramp up the capacity of your external drive enclosure or NAS drive. It's environmentally friendly too, using WD GreenPower Technology to reduce power consumption 'by enabling lower operating temperatures', also making it quieter and more reliable.

When's it due? Out now.

Why are we excited? We just told you, it's the biggest-capacity hard drive yet. Isn't that enough?



▲ D-Link Boxee Box

£200 www.dlink.com

What is it? The Boxee Box connects your TV to the Boxee IPTV service, giving access to movies, TV shows and video content from the internet. Based around an Intel Atom CE4100 processor, it supports full 1080p high-definition video and 5.1 surround sound. You can also access movies, images and music stored on your computer.

When's it due? Should be out now.

Why are we excited? It's far more versatile than the Apple TV, so if it offers the similar finesse, it should be worth the extra £100.

◀ Guitar Sidekick

£20 www.castiv.com

What is it? This iPhone holder for your guitar fits snugly between the nut and the machine heads of your trusty axe. It doesn't affect the sound, but it makes it really easy to use the music/guitar apps available on the iTunes Store, such as video lessons, lyric teleprompters, audio recorders, metronomes, tab displays and tuners.

When's it due? Out now.

Why are we excited? Manufacturer Castiv Media quotes more than 500 guitar apps for the iPhone or iPod touch, including its own free *MP4 Tabs Lite*. Could be just the thing for a budding Eric Clapton or Tony Iommi!





◀ HP Envy 100

£230 www.hp.com

What is it? Go on, have a guess. A DVD player? A set-top box? An effete monitor stand? Wrong – it's a multifunction printer. The HP Envy 100 uses a tricolour ink tank, prints up to 22 pages per minute in colour and scans at up to 1200x1200dpi. You can print from mobile devices by emailing your document to the printer too.

When's it due? Out now.

Why are we excited? The HP Envy simply oozes style. It's great to see so much imagination go into a printer design. It would look great on your desk, as long as you can resist the temptation to pile books and documents on top of it.

▶ equinux tizi

£130 www.equinux.com

What is it? It's 'Europe's first and only mobile TV Hotspot for DVB-T'. This little black box receives a TV signal that you can watch on your iPhone, iPad or iPod touch via Wi-Fi. Its rechargeable battery lasts for up to three and a half hours, and there's a built-in programme guide.

When's it due? Should be out now.

Why are we excited? It sounds like the ideal companion for your iOS device, though make sure you're running iOS4 on your iPhone or iPod touch, or there could be problems.



◀ Hercules DJ Console 4-Mx

£400 www.hercules.com

What is it? It's the ultimate piece of hi-tech DJing kit. Control up to four virtual decks as you scratch with twin 12cm touch-sensitive jog wheels. There are two stereo-out ports for mixing, and twin stereo-in for analogue gear. *Virtual DJ 7 LE* software for OS X 10.5 or 10.6 is also included.

When's it due? Should be out now.

Why are we excited? How could anyone resist a gadget with this many knobs and dials? It looks great fun to use, and is capable of very professional results – as long as the right person is spinning the decks, of course.



Feedback

>> CONTACT US

Whatever your Mac-related cares, concerns or calamities are, let us know about them by contacting us on the following email address: macformat@futurenet.com

Let us know what you think about your Mac, MacFormat and everything Apple

iWeb on Windows?

I would like to start off by saying what a great read your magazine is. It's helped me out tremendously since my switch from Windows-based PCs. I still have to use Windows at work, but I do find Apple much better and easier to use. I also liked your guide for switching and the Snow Leopard guide, which I bought before making the switch. Keep up the good work. I was writing to ask a couple of questions though. I liked the feature you did on *iWeb* (issue 227) and how to design a website on a Mac. My problem is I was asked to come up with a site for someone, and I thought, 'Great, I'll use *iWeb* for that', but I then began to wonder if it's possible to update an *iWeb*-designed website from a Windows PC? I work away and I

may not be at home when updates to this site are required, and the person who would do the updating doesn't have an Apple computer. If this is not possible, is there a program that you can use to design a website on an Apple computer that you can update from a Windows computer? I was hoping that this area might have been covered, if only to say whether or not it was possible to update a site from a Windows PC.

Sinclair Pirie

MacFormat replies: As you suspect, you can only use *iWeb* on a Mac, so you wouldn't be able to update the site from a Windows PC. If you want to have a website that you can update from various locations and across different operating systems, you're probably best off creating a web browser-



Apple's website creation tool, *iWeb*, didn't get updated in the *iLife* '11 upgrade.

controlled site, such as a free WordPress (<http://wordpress.org/>) site. A basic WordPress site is pretty simple, but limited in scope. You can get much more control over the site, and use your own domain name, by doing a custom

WordPress installation on your web space. But while not too difficult, it's a world away from the easy drag-and-drop screens of *iWeb*. Some hosting providers, such as 1&1 (www.oneandone.co.uk) for example, include

>> STAR LETTER / Changing people's lives

Detractors of the iPad often state that it's nothing more than an overblown iPhone. Wrong. It is a truly ground-breaking device. It's ground-breaking for a section of society that relies on technology for assistance. I'm talking about the disabled. We have a disabled daughter, she is almost six and has no speech (yet), which you will understand brings about huge problems. There are devices out on the market that assist deaf and disabled people with their

communication, but they can be very specialised and often expensive, upwards of \$2,000-\$70,000. For her, the iPad is a phenomenal device. It's small enough for her to hold, intuitive enough for her to learn - she has picked it up very quickly - there is no cursor analogy, she can use the touchpad keyboard as it's a direct connection, and it will talk for her. Software for disabled and deaf people is available for the iPhone, so the apps will run on the iPad as well. To quote one

mother who has a daughter with cerebral palsy (from a recent *New York Times* article), "We're not having to fight to prove to people that she's a smart little girl anymore, because it's there once they see her using the iPad".

Drew Buckmaster

MacFormat replies: What a great email, Drew - it's fantastic to hear how your daughter has taken to the iPad, and to hear what a lifeline it has been for you and your family.

>> STAR LETTER



Email all your letters to us at macformat@futurenet.com. If yours gets picked as the MacFormat Star Letter, you'll be sent a fantastic EyeTV DTT Deluxe. It comes with analog and digital tuners, so you can use it to put TV on your Mac wherever you are in the country!

Are you getting less than a megabit download speed from your ISP?

template-driven website building tools with their packages, which might offer you all the tools you need.

Terminal idea

I have been a Mac owner now for 18 months and I love it. I started reading *MacFormat* magazine a month or so later and have found it most helpful as I 'un-learned' all my PC experience and started to explore the wonders of my iMac. However, there is one thing that I'm sure you have not explained: *Terminal*. Quite often you state, "You can run the following command in *Terminal*," but I have never seen an article on this application - what it does, how to go about using it, the risks associated and so on. I'm sure others would also find an item on this interesting.

Jon Jones

MacFormat replies: Thank you for the kind words, Jon. We did do a series on exploring *Terminal* a couple of years ago. It's probably time we revisited the subject now that so many more new Mac owners have joined the magazine, so thanks for the tip!

Koss headphones

In Gadgets (page 21) of *MF227*, Koss Portapro headphones were noted as being excellent for an iPod. How are they for an iPhone 4? I assume they won't give phone use, but can they be used for listening to music?

Peter Copeland

MacFormat replies: Any headphones that can be plugged into an iPod will work on an iPhone for listening to music. If they are listed as being for the iPod it can mean there's no built-in mic. Without a microphone their suitability for iPhone is limited.

The Koss Portapro headphones are perfect, especially if you want to re-live that 1980s look!



To give an indication of the problem, according to an article on www.thinkbroadband.com, The Hampshire Senate estimates that the number of properties in Hampshire not getting 2Mbps is around 112,000 homes and 3,400 businesses. That is a lot of people who feel very aggrieved every time they see the words 'up to' prefacing the supposed speed of the latest broadband offer.

John Surtees

Luis Villazon replies: Well, that's shocking. I live in the wilds of North Devon and I manage 5Mbps on a bad day. If you're regularly getting under a megabit, I still maintain you need to take a hard look at whether landline ADSL is actually worth the money for you. A cellular broadband dongle will give you 1-2Mbit if you have 3G reception, for example, and the tariffs are roughly the same as other broadband services. Or you could get 3.6Mbps with satellite broadband (www.avonlinebroadband.co.uk, for example) provided you don't mind higher setup costs and a higher latency. My point is that you have options. Paying for 6 or 8 or 20Mbit and getting less than one is ridiculous.

Under a gigabit

I don't know what planet Luis Villazon is on, but in his answer to Terry Wells on his problem with *Apple Mail* (MF227), he expresses surprise that the guy is only managing 0.97Mbits download speed on his broadband.

I think if you did a poll of all your readers, you would find the reality is there are a hell of a lot of us who get very poor broadband speed.

The problem of poor download speed is not just in rural areas. It's the same for people in cities who just happen to live some way from the exchange. Personally, I get 1.2Mbits, but during late afternoon, I feel lucky if we can even maintain a connection. While the law allows ISPs to use those wonderful weasel words 'up to' in their ads, there seems very little hope of anything changing.



Twitter talk

From the Twittersphere

We asked:

Are you looking forward to the new Mac App Store?

@jrbenson

"I am looking forward to the Mac App Store as it will provide a central place to purchase apps and should simplify upgrades like on iOS."

@danielpholt

"Very interested to see what Apple does with it. The prospect of split-up iWork gets my vote. £12 for Pages? Yes please!"

@liambrazier

"If Steam is anything to go by, the ease of it all will equal empty pockets."

@john_hannon

"Mac apps are the logical step up from widgets. It awakens the dev community's interest and increases Mac utility."

@cansurmeli

"Maybe not for big fishes, but for small fishes it will be easier for them to distribute. They're going to only worry about production."

@cupofteavicar

"Anything that helps put out great software quickly, effortlessly and cost-effectively has to be good!"

@Pearcie

"Not looking forward to Mac App Store as it could put third-party vendors of Mac software out of business."

You can find out what we're up to each month by following the team at [Twitter.com/MacFormat](https://twitter.com/MacFormat)

>> READERS' SITES / iWeb wonders

In issue 227 of *MacFormat* we ran a feature on how to get the most out of *iWeb*. We asked you to send us links to your websites that you created with *iWeb* after reading the feature. We received many great submissions but here are the two that really caught our eye.



Submitted by MacFormat reader Bosco, www.aromaticcuisine.co.uk is a colourful and enthusiastic website he created for his business.



Jonathan Read-Bone's website, dedicated to the Aston Martin DB5 and the famous Corgi model, can be found here: <http://bit.ly/9GNiPY>.

Dictionary tip

Just a quick note that may help your readers. I'm sure you know already but here goes: if you keep the *Dictionary* application on the Dock, from any application you can highlight text and then simply drag and drop the text onto the *Dictionary* icon. It will launch and look up the word for you - yet another simple, handy workflow from Apple. Thanks for a great magazine.

Andi Vaughan

MacFormat replies: Thanks for the tip, Andi! One of the joys of owning a Mac is discovering these little nuggets of gold. We'd encourage all our readers to send us their favourite little Mac tips like this and we'll print the best in the next issue of *MacFormat*!

Is it worth it?

Since buying my iPhone 3G about 18 months ago I have become totally hooked on Apple products. Three months ago I bought a 32GB iPad, two months ago I bought an Airport Express for music streaming and three weeks ago I bought my very first iMac!

I love the way that everything just works; the Airport Express was a bit tricky to set up under Windows, but the first time I turned on my Mac it was there, instantly. Transferring files from my PC over Wi-Fi also worked instantly. The thing just worked, which is a bit of a shock for someone brought up on PCs. I have six months remaining on my mobile phone contract and I am beginning to look at options for my upgrade. I say options

because for the first time in a very long time I do not see the overriding benefits of an Apple product. I really do not think that the iPhone 4 offers that much extra over and above my 3G. Okay, so it may be faster and look really good but the headline features aren't exactly features I can get easily excited about. HDR photos? I don't care about this as I don't use my phone to take photos. FaceTime? Again, I don't care, it is currently too limited. HD recording and playback on an HD screen? I can get that on an HTC Desire HD and the screen is larger. The only things that might make me buy an iPhone 4 are the integration with my other Apple products (Apple TV is the next thing on my list) and the fact I have apps that I have

purchased, which would become a waste of money but then I have my iPad that can cover these. Are there any features and benefits that I am overlooking and am I being too unreasonable to expect something outstanding?

David Fowler

MacFormat replies: You'll find the iPhone 4 a big step up from a 3G. The camera is so good you'll actually start using it, the Retina Display is way ahead of the 3G screen, and you can just restore from a backup, so all your apps, email and contact information will all be right there from the start. Not to mention that it can run the iOS 4 operating system (which the 3G technically can, but only slowly) Like all Apple products, it's only by using it that you appreciate it. ●

>> APPLE EVENTS / What's going on?

MACFORMAT
5 January 2011

As we get under way with a new year, the new issue of *MacFormat* goes on sale. 2010 proved an exciting time - what will 2011 bring to the world of Apple? As always, find out in *MacFormat*.

CES, Las Vegas
7-10 January 2011

The CES Apple section expands from 4,000 to 25,000 sq ft.

BETT, London
12-15 January 2011

The capital hosts the world's leading technology-in-education

show, which will show off a hotbed of Apple-related solutions and technologies.

MACWORLD CONFERENCE AND EXPO, San Francisco
25-29 January 2011

Apple remains absent from the annual San Francisco event,

where you can get hands-on with new OS X products.

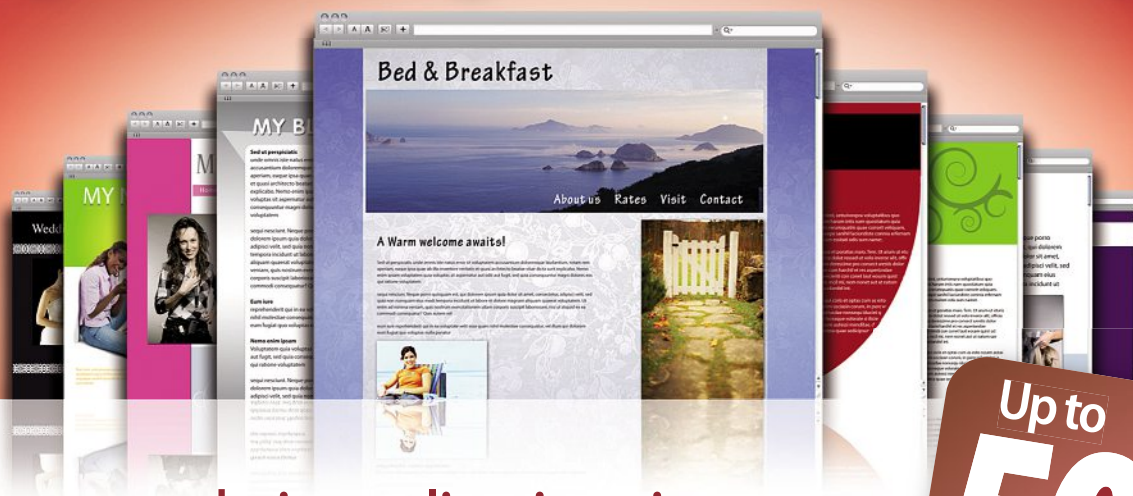
CeBIT, Hannover, Germany
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Words: Jonny Evans

MacFormat investigates

Mac OS X Lion

With a host of new features, Apple's latest OS is sure to create a mighty roar... We head out into the jungle of speculation to find out why

Set to ship next summer, Mac OS X 10.7 Lion is the eighth major version of OS X. And it will borrow everything that's good from Apple's other OS, iOS.

"We started with Mac OS X, repurposed it for the iPhone and used it in the iPad as well.

"Now we're bringing some of the ideas back to the Mac," said Apple CEO, Steve Jobs. "Lion has a ton of new features, and we hope the few we had time to preview will give users a good idea of where we are headed," Jobs said.

Highlights include the Mac App Store, Launchpad, full-screen applications, Mission Control, Auto Save and Resume, and more (see page 26).

Jobs also went on to respond to speculation that Apple intends making touch-sensitive Macs: this is both true and false. Jobs admitted Apple has been working on this, but said touch surfaces "don't want to be vertical," because a user's arm will get tired pretty fast. As such, Apple's answer to using touch as part of the user interface (UI) of

Mac OS X comes in the form of Multi-Touch, via the Magic Mouse and the Magic Trackpad.

2011 is the 10th anniversary of Mac OS X. On launch, it boasted industry-leading features: full-colour scalable graphics, text and graphics anti-aliasing, the Dock and more. Lion seems set to maintain that lead.

The competition

Apple's world-class OS scales between phones, tablets and computing devices. But how does

this compare with others? Microsoft recommends avoiding using Windows Phone 7 on tablets, promising it is developing its own "rich touch and applications

experience" for tablets. Microsoft will focus on bringing a low-power version of its PC platform to market for these. However, this is creating confusion: while Apple has a clear division between iOS and Mac OS X, cross-pollinating as appropriate between the systems, Microsoft has three, all called Windows...

"While Apple has a division between iOS and Mac OS X, cross-pollinating between the systems, Microsoft has three, all called Windows"



Could Apple's latest OS be its best one yet? Expect much speculation until its release next summer.
Image: iStockphoto.com

The top 5 features of OS X Lion



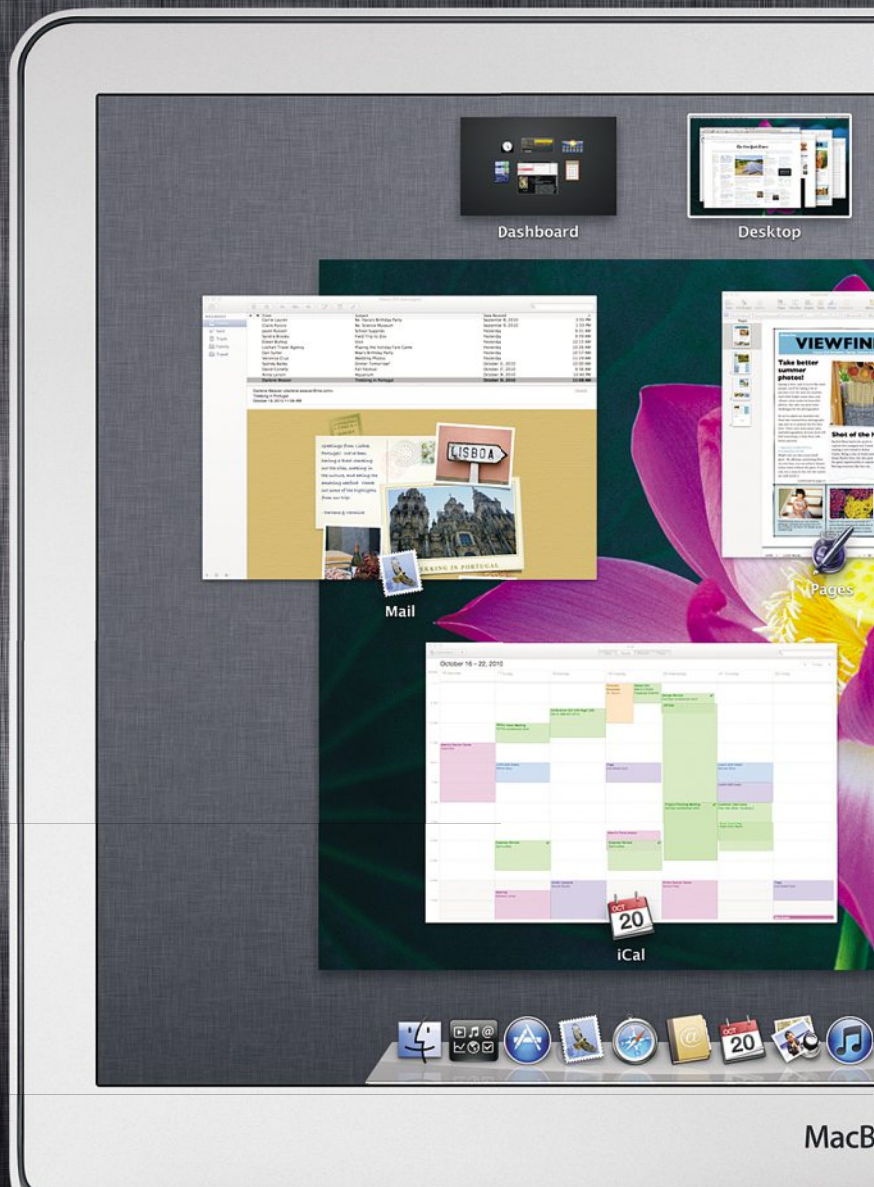
The Mac App Store

01 Apple's Mac App Store will let you browse, purchase and download apps from Apple and other sources directly to your Mac. You'll be able to install software you purchase on all your personal Macs, while developers take 70% of their revenue. Granted, this will make it easier than ever to purchase software for your Mac, but titles sold here will have to pass through the App Store approval system. You'll still be able to buy software elsewhere. The store will open for Snow Leopard users in weeks.



Touch to find

02 Lion's new Mission Control feature will make it easier than ever to navigate through your open windows, applications, Spaces and Exposé. You'll navigate through these using flicking gestures, just like an iPad. *iTunes* users may feel a little as if they're using Cover Flow. Accessed via the Dock, Launchpad (pictured) will be a flick-through screen showing icons for your apps. Like an iPad, you'll be able to organise icons as you wish and also gather these inside custom folders.



We'll learn more about Apple's 'king of the jungle' in the run-up to WWDC next year, but here's what we know already...



INVESTIGATION



FaceTime

03 Apple has rebranded iSight cameras as FaceTime cameras, and Lion will integrate FaceTime chat. Currently available in beta, FaceTime will let Mac users initiate video chat with any iPhone, iPod touch or Mac user, via Wi-Fi. In future you can expect FaceTime support via 3G networks, although we can't say when.



Full-screen apps

04 Mac OS X Lion will bring Mac users system-wide support for full-screen applications, maximising screen space - a bonus for creative users. You'll be able to enter full-screen mode with just one click, and - with a focus on touch - switch from one full-screen app to another with just a swipe of the trackpad.



Window change

05 Lion borrows from iOS when it comes to application window behaviour. As some demo windows show, you'll see discreet scroll bars that appear when you initiate a swipe gesture, much like on an iPad. The bright Aqua scroll bars are replaced by these sleek strips. You can also resize Lion's windows from any corner.

ook Air



Similarly, Google continues to achieve success with iAndroid OS, but despite the company warning that it isn't suitable for tablets, manufacturers, including Samsung, are already introducing tablets running Android. Linux, meanwhile, continues to go from strength to strength, but the open source system still lacks a major footprint in consumer markets.

Apple leads

We're at a nexus point for the OS and app development. Full-screen windows will deepen our relationship with our apps. A great app should "tell a story with a screenshot," said *Chicago Times* Apple pundit, Andy Ihnatko. In the future, if you can't tell how an app works just by looking at its screen, then it will be an interface failure.

Borrowed from iOS, Launchpad is like a Home screen and will show you all your available applications.

This underlines Lion's focus on convenience, usability and the interface. Lion may be remembered as a step toward developing non-hierarchical file management for computers.

Ultimately, Apple is creating a common environment across all its devices, proving Mac OS X a highly flexible, powerful and modern OS.

Developers welcomed what they saw. "Lion looks interesting, but I think it's still too early to tell how it's going to turn out," said *DragThing* founder James Thomson. "From a developer perspective, anything that makes it easier for developers to build apps for both Mac OS and iOS would be welcome. My main hope is that we'll see something like UIKit (the iOS UI framework) as part of Lion."

Bare Bones Software founder and CEO, Rich Siegel said: "The truth is that it's far too early to do much more than project, like a good Rorschach test, until we see the first seed."

The Mac App Store may change everything, and some developers are worried Apple may



demand all Mac software is sold this way, locking them out of the platform.

"We will need to make a separate version of each app for delivery to the App Store," observed Siegel. "The Mac App Store represents an opportunity to put our products in front of a larger audience," he said.

"I have mixed emotions about the Mac App Store, but it's not a shock," said Thomson. "As soon as the iOS store was a success it was inevitable." He's concerned at app review, though, noting: "A lot of apps might not even be approved under the guidelines." A case in point is his own app, *DragThing*, which could be seen as overlapping functions of the Finder and Dock.

Lukas Mathis is a developer who builds apps for different operating systems on his Mac. He thinks the Mac App Store will be a "game-changer" and will make the Mac apps market "vastly larger" than the audience for consumer Windows apps. His problem with the App Store? The challenge of app

discovery amid a sea of mediocre apps, he said, urging Apple to ensure quality control.

This power to reject worries Rixstep, who warned an App Store for Mac was on the way last summer. They are concerned Apple may demand all Mac software be sold via the store. "We don't believe things will stop as they're currently announced. We believe the long-

term goal is to bind all third-party software to the platform," a company spokesman said.

What effect could this have? "We've been selling *PCalc* for iOS for over two

years now, so we're used to the limitations," said Thomson. "Mainly the delays in shipping new versions caused by the approval process and the race to 59p pricing. But *PCalc* makes more on the iPhone and iPad than on the Mac."

"Apple is creating a common environment across all its devices, proving Mac OS X a flexible, powerful and modern OS"

Innovation history

It's almost 10 years since its launch, and OS X remains built on the object-oriented operating system NeXTSTEP, itself developed at Jobs' second computer company, NeXT. While NeXT

DID YOU KNOW?

In the Dock: Lion will relaunch apps where you left them, though MacRumors warns the Dock may no longer highlight active applications as a result, though this may change.

10 years of OS X

A timeline of Apple's big cats

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005

24 Mar
OS X 10.0
Cheetah

25 Sep
OS X 10.1
Puma

24 Aug
OS X 10.2
Jaguar



24 Oct
OS X 10.3
Panther



>> MACFORMAT OPINION / What do the team think of OS X Lion?

Graham Barlow

Editor in Chief



Lion looks fantastic, but I think every Mac owner has got a slight feeling of trepidation that Apple might be in danger of adding in too much stuff from the iPad OS to OS X. I'll put my hand up and admit that I hardly ever use Spaces, or Widgets for that matter. Will Launchpad be just another great feature that I don't actually use? I don't know. Lion has got the potential to revolutionise the way I use my Mac, so I'll make my mind up when I get my hands on a copy.

Christopher Phin

Deputy Editor



I'm a little non-plussed. It seems all a bit 'tinkering round the edges' to me. The App Store, of course, is potentially disruptive, but that's not Lion-only. And while the full-screen mode will suit my working style, I'd rather have better, smarter window management. Hell, Windows 7 is ahead of Mac OS X here with its tiling Snap feature. I really hope Apple has lots more up its sleeve, because even at Snow Leopard's impulse-buy £25 price point, I'm unmoved.

Ian Osborne

Reviews Editor



No Mac fan would ever be uninterested in hearing all about a new version of OS X, but the Lion features we've been shown so far are largely cosmetic.

The Mac App Store looks useful, but it won't be restricted to Lion users. Launchpad looks good too, but it's only another way of opening an application. I hope more meaty revisions will be announced soon. Oh, and don't forget to give us tabbed *Finder* windows this time, Apple!

Laurence Cable

Staff Writer



I'm always excited about a new version of OS X and discovering more about the general performance boosts they bring, so I'll be onto the pre-order site in a flash when it becomes available. But I'm yet to be won over by the Mac App Store idea. While I've no doubt people will love it, I fear it will take away some of the customisation freedom you have when installing software on OS X, in favour of an iOS-style one-size-fits-all approach.

hardware proved too expensive for mass-market adoption, it generated powerful software technologies, such as WebObjects and the object-oriented programming language which we now know as Cocoa.

Apple was foundering. Mac OS was dated, unwieldy and reaching the limit of what it could do. The company had been working to develop its own OS, Copland, but it came to nothing. They then acquired NeXT in 1997. The first version of Mac OS X shipped in March 2001. Has it changed things? Snow Leopard reached twice as many users as Leopard. Apple is now the fourth biggest US PC maker, and if you add OS X-based iPads to its sales it is arguably the biggest 'PC' maker in the world.

Missing links

The Lion launch also saw Apple debut the MacBook Air, which ships without Flash pre-installed; an Apple tech note also confirmed the company won't be shipping its own Java runtimes in future iterations of OS X. In future, Mac users wanting to use either standard will need to download the most recent Mac versions from standard developers.

The lack of Java could be a problem, noted Mathis. "As a developer who uses Mac OS X to



"Apple was foundering. Their Mac OS was dated, unwieldy and reaching the limit of what it could do"

write non-Mac apps, I was unhappy to hear Apple will stop supporting its version of Java. While most don't rely on Java on Macs, developers use Java-based IDE's to write server-side apps, and apps for Android and other mobile platforms.

When Mac OS X first launched, Apple spread the message of open standards and flexibility. Java was a popular object-oriented programming language, so Apple worked to improve Mac Java support. Oracle now owns Java, following the acquisition of Sun Microsystems.

"Presumably, we'll get a usable replacement for Apple's Java by the time Lion hits, but it would be nice if Apple helped us by open-sourcing its own version of Java, and letting us maintain it," notes Mathis.

We'll see questions like these answered as Apple approaches summer 2011, particularly when it attempts to excite attendees at next year's Worldwide Developer's Conference. ●

DID YOU KNOW?

Flick to find: A recent Apple patent reveals a system of "scrollable menus and toolbars", enabling you to flick through menu and toolbar items in complex drop-down menus.

24 Oct
OS X 10.4
Tiger



24 Oct
OS X 10.5
Leopard



24 Oct
OS X 10.6
Snow
Leopard



Summer
2011
OS X 10.7
Lion

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iLife '11



**iLIFE
REVIEWS**
Reviews of iMovie,
GarageBand and
iPhoto start on
page 94!

Whether you're interested in
photography, movies or making
music, iLife '11 has it covered.

Photography: Simon Lees

If you're thinking
of upgrading to
the latest version
of iLife then start
here to discover
some great
new features...

Sure, Apple hardware is lovely, OS X is a dream to use and everything integrates flawlessly with your iOS device, but it's Apple's *iLife* suite that's the hidden gem at the heart of the Mac. It's *iLife* that turns every single Mac into an incredibly versatile and inspirational multimedia powerhouse.

The most recent '11 update to *iLife* saw some great new additions to the three key *iLife* applications – *iPhoto*, *iMovie* and *GarageBand*. *iLife* '11 costs £45 (or £69 for a Family Pack that can be installed on up to five Macs in your house), and if you

haven't upgraded already then you might be looking for a few good reasons – turn to page 94 for our comprehensive reviews. Meanwhile in this section, we'll guide you through all the new features.

Of course, *iWeb* and *iDVD* are still part of the *iLife* suite, but haven't seen any updates from their '09 versions, so we won't cover them here. Instead, we're going to start off with *iPhoto* '11. These days everybody has a digital camera, but it seems like it's Mac owners who get to have the most fun with one, thanks to *iPhoto*. Turn the page to find out why... >>

Hello, I'm iPhoto '11!

iPhoto '11 makes organising and editing photos more fun than ever

Apple's iPhoto is perhaps the most used of the iLife apps, and the new '11 version offers some great enhancements. The main interface change sees the predominant use of full-screen views, enhanced email and Facebook integration and some great new and charming slideshow effects.

Once your photos have been imported into iPhoto's library, there's so much you can do with them. It's an organisational powerhouse; you can create albums, pin your photos to a map, have iPhoto pick out the faces from your shots and, with a little help, you can even show all the photos in which particular people appear.

It's also a very accomplished photo editor. iPhoto hasn't got the power of *Photoshop* – and you certainly won't be using it to create rich photo montages – but it does a quite brilliant job of correcting poorly exposed shots and really giving your images a polish.

When you're done, you can use iPhoto to share your pictures with friends and family. You can publish them to fantastic online galleries or produce some stunning photo books and calendars. iPhoto '11 makes some great improvements in this area, including the ability to create letterpress cards, as you'll find out on page 40.

"Once your photos have been imported into iPhoto's photo library, there's so much you can do with them"

>> GOING PRO

If you outgrow iPhoto, there are two image-editing applications you should consider.

Apple's *Aperture*, from Apple, is the easiest upgrade, as it can read your iPhoto library natively. Apple's *Aperture* is slick and powerful, and you can



pull images from it using the media panel in many other Apple apps.

Adobe's *Lightroom*

isn't to be ignored, however. Many think that its handling is more fully featured. You can download trials of both.



01 Full-screen views are now par for the course in *iPhoto '11*, enabling you to focus on your photos without being distracted by anything else on your Desktop.

02 The **Library** section contains your **Events, Photos, Faces** and **Places**. These are different ways of splitting up your photo album and help to quickly locate photos.

03 You can create as many albums as you like and populate them with photos from your library. Deleting a photo from an album won't remove it from the main library.

04 Your web galleries are listed here. Anytime you create an online gallery it gets added to this section of *iPhoto*, so you can control exactly what it contains.

05 To quickly make a slideshow, simply select some photos or choose an album and hit the **Slideshow** button here. You can then choose a theme for your slideshow.

06 This control bar gets you access to *iPhoto's* powerful editing tools and sharing facilities. To make one of the great new photo books, click on **Create**.



iPhoto 11's new full-screen mode

It might look different, but you'll soon find your way around...

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY:
Beginner

TIME NEEDED:
15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
iPhoto '11

The new full-screen modes are one of the big selling points. But while new modes have been added and other things moved around, the editing tools are the same. Now, though, they've been integrated and moved into a fixed sidebar rather than floated as windows or displayed along the bottom. Where the new interface makes a real difference is with the display of **Events** and **Albums**, as well as **Places** and **Faces**. *iPhoto '11* is like a fusion of the Mac, the iPad and, for that matter, the full-screen mode in *Aperture*. You can still use the 'old' *iPhoto* layout, but the new display mode exploits the whole screen area.

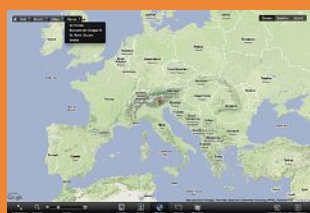
Rod Lawton

Navigation button

This acts like a 'back' button in the full-screen modes, taking you to the level before. Here, for example, we're looking at the **Last Import** album. Clicking this button will take us to the full-screen **Albums** display, which will show them all as 'skimmable' thumbnails. They look slightly different to **Events**, but you can choose key photos in just the same way. Note the list of options at the bottom of the screen, too: **Events**, **Faces**, **Places**, **Albums** and **Projects**.

Toggle modes

This button toggles between full-screen and normal display. The standard mode is better for housekeeping, and when you import new pictures, *iPhoto* goes to this mode automatically. But, if you're not keen on the new full-screen modes, you don't have to use them. Apart from some tweaks and repositioning of the editing tools, the standard mode is the same as before.



Faces and places

Places works well in full-screen mode. You can drag the map to scroll around and use the slider on the bottom toolbar to zoom in. There's a list of countries, states, cities and places, and you can use this to zoom in on locations. As before, *iPhoto* will read geotagging data, but you can also add location info manually within *iPhoto*.



>> HOW TO / Use keyboard shortcuts

⌘+⌘+F
[Space]

[Space] (or double-click) Displays photo full-screen in **Album** or **Event** views

⌘+E
⌘+I

Toggles full-screen mode
Set key photo when in **Albums** and **Events**

Enter **Edit** mode
Show photo info

Q
E
A
C

⌘+K
⌘+1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Quick Fixes (in **Edit** mode)
Effects (in **Edit** mode)
Adjust (in **Edit** mode)
Compare before and after versions (in **Edit** mode)
Toggles **Keywords** panel
Sets photo rating



Quick Fixes

The Quick Fixes panel contains all the tools that used to run along the bottom of the screen in the **Edit** mode. The Quick Fixes are a good first step if your photos just need a couple of tweaks. The **Enhance** button is particularly effective, and it automatically adjusts a variety of settings, which you can then examine or change in the **Adjust** panel.



Adjust

The sliders in the **Adjust** panel work in just the same way as they did before. You can modify your photos manually, or use the **Enhance** button or the new **Effects** and then open the **Adjust** panel to see what they've done. *iPhoto* isn't a terribly sophisticated image-editor, but it does have some neat touches, notably the **Highlights** and **Shadows** sliders, which do a good job of balancing up high-contrast lighting.



Effects

The **Effects** panel, highlighted here, is largely the same as before, but with some new buttons at the top. The special effects (the nine square buttons below) work exactly as before – some are on/off toggles, like the **B&W** and **Sepia** effects, while others are cumulative, building up strength with each click, such as the **Antique** and **Boost** effects, for example. The new buttons at the top are a little different. These are cumulative too, but designed to apply image enhancements rather than special effects. Changes you make here show up in the **Adjust** panel, so you can think of these new buttons as providing simple, single-click image tweaks.

Share

New buttons in the bottom right-hand corner let you access various *iPhoto* features via pop-up menus without having to exit the full-screen mode. The **Share** menu, for example, accesses your MobileMe galleries, Flickr account and, in particular, the enhanced Facebook tools. You can also send emails directly from *iPhoto* now, using specifically designed email templates.

Filmstrip

When you're viewing individual photos, as shown here, *iPhoto* displays a filmstrip along the bottom. This enlarges when you move the mouse pointer over it and displays a scrollbar underneath. Alternatively, you can use the arrow keys to navigate through your photos. In **Albums** or **Events** view, the filmstrip is replaced by a **Slideshow** button, otherwise you'll see buttons for each of the different full-screen display modes.

Create

You use this button to create a new album, book, card or slideshow – again, this saves you having to quit the full-screen mode. Any books and cards you've created are now organised and displayed on a new 'bookshelf' in full-screen mode. It looks quite smart if you like the iPad style of interface, though long-time *iPhoto* users might still be happier with the standard source list display.

iPhoto '11 for email and Facebook

Here's a look at how some of the new online sharing features work...

>>KEY INFO

 **DIFFICULTY:**
Beginner

 **TIME NEEDED:**
10 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
iPhoto '11, Internet connection,
Facebook account

There's little point in having hundreds of pictures if you don't share them with anyone... This is a major theme in iPhoto '11, as it now has substantial enhancements to the email tools and Facebook sharing features.

There are improvements to the Flickr integration, too, including support for multiple accounts, though space is tight here so that will have to wait for another time.

According to Apple, email is still people's favourite way of sharing photos. It's simple, it's direct, and you know exactly who's seeing your images. Our annotation, below, shows some of the key email features in the new version, but there are two main improvements. One is that you don't have to leave iPhoto to send your photos - it's all handled within the app. The other is that you get a selection of very attractive email

templates, so that all you have to do is choose your pictures, and iPhoto will 'design' the email, adapting automatically to the number you've chosen (up to a maximum of 10).

The changes to the Facebook tools are a combination of new features and a redesigned interface and way of working. You could upload photos to Facebook in iPhoto '09, but only to albums. In iPhoto '11 it's possible to post single pics to your wall, as well. You can upload profile pics, too, which is another new feature.

There's been a big step forward in the Facebook synchronisation tools.

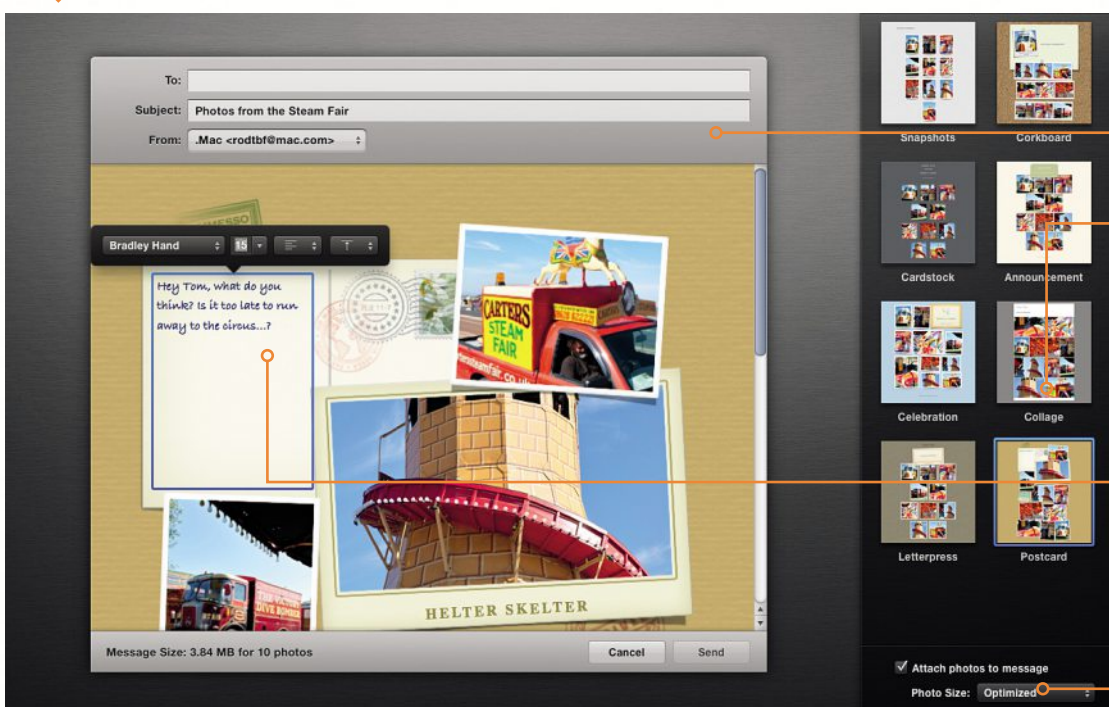
"Email is still people's favourite way of sharing photos. It's simple and you know who's seeing it..."

Now it will download existing Facebook albums and display them in iPhoto, even if you've used a different uploader. This means you get seamless integration between iPhoto and Facebook - the albums you see in one are the same as those you see in the other. You can change album names and photo titles in iPhoto and your Facebook albums will be updated automatically, and it works the other way round, too, so if you're away from your Mac you can edit your albums online instead. Bear in mind, though, that the photo synchronisation is limited to albums - you can't synchronise Wall photos.

And one really neat feature in iPhoto '11 is the way it displays any comments left by your friends on Facebook. These are displayed in the Info panel (see Step 6, opposite), along with any name tags.

Rod Lawton

>>HOW TO / Email a photo from iPhoto



Email

iPhoto does not export photos to Apple Mail anymore, as it now has an email client built in.

Templates

You can choose from a range of templates, and include photos.

Text

Add titles and messages, and choose different fonts, too.

Optimisation

iPhoto '11 can reduce your message to 5MB by shrinking photos.

>> HOW TO / Upload photos to Facebook



01 Facebook preferences

Open up *iPhoto*'s preferences and click on the **Accounts** tab. This displays the accounts used for sharing photos. All you need to do to add a Facebook account is click the + button and choose Facebook from the list. You'll be prompted to enter your Facebook login data.



02 Facebook albums

iPhoto will synchronise with your Facebook albums. To see them, open the **Web** section, then click on the Facebook entry. All your albums will be displayed. Double-click an album to view the contents, choose a new **Key Photo** and adjust the album properties.



03 Select and share

To create a new album within *iPhoto*, first select the photos you want to use. (We're in full-screen mode here, but it works the same way in standard view.) You can also select entire albums and share those. Click the **Share** button and select Facebook from the list.



>> QUICK TIP

Titles in *iPhoto* are mapped onto the **Description** field on Facebook, but be wary of typing in long descriptions online – these are synced back to the Mac and replace the titles in *iPhoto*, even outside the Facebook album you've created.

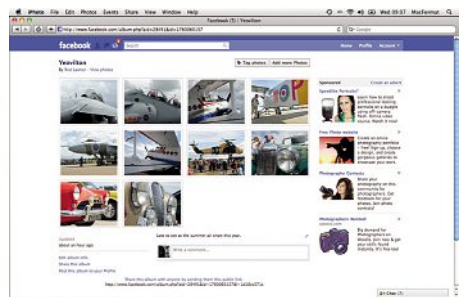


04 Upload options

You now get a choice of where to put the photos you're sharing. Create a new album or add them to an existing album (listed in this pop-up panel). Or you can post photos to your wall, which is a new feature in *iPhoto* '11, useful for adding and commenting on a single picture.

06 iPhoto info

Back in *iPhoto*, you can open your Facebook albums, double-click a photo and click **Info** to see comments. If you open the **Sharing** section you'll see where each photo has been shared, when, and what comments your friends have made. *iPhoto* also syncs Facebook tags with its own **Faces** feature. When you're adding names to faces in *iPhoto*, it includes Facebook friends in the list. That's not all you can do in the **Info** panel. It's not related to Facebook, but you can check keywords, add new ones and add a location using the **Places** section. It's not just new features that make *iPhoto* '11 interesting, but the way existing tools have been re-organised and streamlined.



05 Facebook albums

When you check your Facebook account you'll see the albums/photos have been added. There's no difference in the presentation between photos added from Facebook and uploaded from *iPhoto*. Also, tags or comments added by friends are synced back to *iPhoto*. ●

iPhoto's new books and cards

Never underestimate the power of print to bring your photos alive...

>> KEY INFO



DIFFICULTY:
Intermediate



TIME NEEDED:
30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
iPhoto '11, some photos

Photo books are a great way to present and enjoy photos, and the new book-creation tools in *iPhoto '11* make them easier and more enjoyable to make.

And that's saying something, because *iPhoto '09* was good already.

It's not the only way to create photo books, of course. There are lots of third-party online photo labs that let you design books online or download a desktop book-design app. But the point about doing it in *iPhoto* is that it's integrated perfectly with your *iPhoto* library and the design tools are just so darned good.

The other thing is that Apple's book printing prices might not be the cheapest, but they are competitive.

The walkthrough on the opposite page shows the basic workflow, but if you want to get more heavily into individual page design, there's lots of scope for customisation. But what's so impressive is the way you can leave all the layout work to *iPhoto* and

still bash out a great-looking book in just a few minutes. Designing a photo book is usually a pretty tedious and long-winded process, but in *iPhoto '11* it's not just easy, it's actually quite inspirational. You can see your digital images being turned into something rather beautiful and, at the end, it's a physical object you can hold and hand around.

"It's integrated perfectly with your iPhoto library and the design tools are just so darned good"

There are some notable new book-creation features. First, you can design books in full-screen mode, which does actually enhance the experience considerably. Second, there's a new **All Pages** view that shows you the whole book on a single

screen. Third, you can now design full-bleed, double-page spreads, which is especially handy for panoramic landscape shots.

What's more, the enhanced autoflow feature does some very clever stuff behind the scenes. It will give priority to your best photos (see the Quick Tip, opposite), it uses *iPhotos'* face-detection technology to make sure people aren't cropped off at the edge of the picture and it checks the date to keep together pictures taken on the same day.

Apple's also introduced a new letterpress card design to *iPhoto '11*, and you can see how this works in the annotation below. The key feature here is the new 'debossed' printing process, which creates a raised pattern on the card. It's not something you can do at home, and it does add to the cost, but it gives cards a quality and a 'feel' that can't be achieved any other way.

Rod Lawton

>> HOW TO / How to create a letterpress card



Front of card

We've chosen a single picture layout. There are others, and they're all simple and unfussy.

Card layouts

There's a small selection of layouts for the card interior here.

Inside card

The top page is kept blank, and the bottom contains your message.

Navigator

Use this for typing in text - slide the **Zoom**, then drag the marquee.

>> HOW TO / Create a book in iPhoto '11



01 Dynamic theme browser

Once you've selected your photos, click the new **Create** button and choose **Book** from the menu. *iPhoto* will add the book to your list of **Projects** in the source bar and present you with this new **Dynamic** theme browser. Here you choose the size, binding, design and scheme.



02 All Pages view

iPhoto's autoflow feature will fill your book with the photos you've selected (see the Quick Tip box and intro for more). Also new is this **All Pages** view, which shows you your whole book at a glance. You can drag the pages to reorder them and double-click to edit them.



03 Page layouts

iPhoto selects varied page layouts within the theme, and if you make use of the smarter autoflow options you may hardly need to change a thing. Choose different layouts, though, by selecting the page and choosing a new layout using this pop-up.



04 Adding captions

Many layouts come with text boxes, and you can edit these by selecting them. Stick with the standard text style or use the pop-up controls to change the font, size and colour. If you don't want to write anything, select the page and choose a different, text-free layout.



05 Modifying photos

If you don't like the way a photo is cropped, click on it and then use the zoom tool to change the scale and drag to adjust the position. You can edit pictures within books. And you can click the **Design** button, bottom-right, to add borders, captions and image effects.



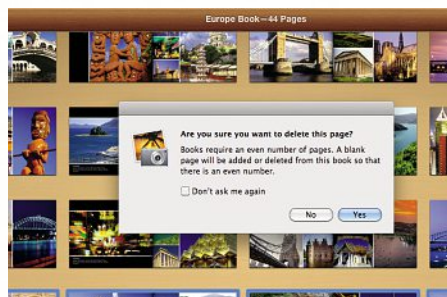
>> QUICK TIP

Add ratings to photos before you start because *iPhoto* will prioritise higher-rated images during the autoflow process – your best photos are made the biggest. Adding location data is also useful if you want to incorporate map pages.



06 Double-page spreads

The **DPS** feature is new and enables you to stretch an image across two facing pages – *iPhoto* simulates the spine in the middle, so you can use this to adjust cropping and position. Choosing this layout may mean some of your pictures are displaced, but it's easy to sort out.



07 Deleting pages

This is something you'll want to look at before you press the **Buy Book** button. *iPhoto*'s autoflow will add pages to accommodate all your photos, and if you've got lots you're going to end up with an expensive book. Go to the **All Pages** view to start deleting pages.



08 Choosing photos

When you do this you're going to lose photos. However, these are still kept as part of the project, so click the **Photos** button and choose **Show: Unplaced Photos** from the pop-up menu. Now drag a photo from the panel on to another already in the book to swap them. ●

Hello, I'm iMovie '11!

iMovie '11 makes good on audio editing, One-Step Effects and more

Of all the iLife apps, iMovie is the one that has been through the most changes as the suite has evolved. The '06 version of iLife saw a radical change to the way the program functioned, but dropped many essential features that Apple has been adding back in with newer versions ever since. The latest '11 version of iMovie does even more to restore iMovie to the gem it used to be. In fact, for the first time it tips the scales in favour of the new way of working, by adding some features that far surpass the old iMovie 6 HD.

iMovie '11 has some fantastic new audio-editing tools, which means you can finally give your movie's soundtrack the attention it deserves. There are also a lot of fun additions, such as **Movie Trailers**, which turn a bunch of your clips into a Hollywood-style movie trailer, and **One-Step Effects**, which make it easy to add jaw-dropping moments to your films. Add to this a new **People Finder**, **Sports** and **News Themes** and more options for sharing your movie online, and the new version looks like a winner.

Over the next few pages we'll show you how all the new features of iMovie '11 work. If you're new to iMovie then look to your right for a brief overview of how everything works, then dive right into the fun stuff!

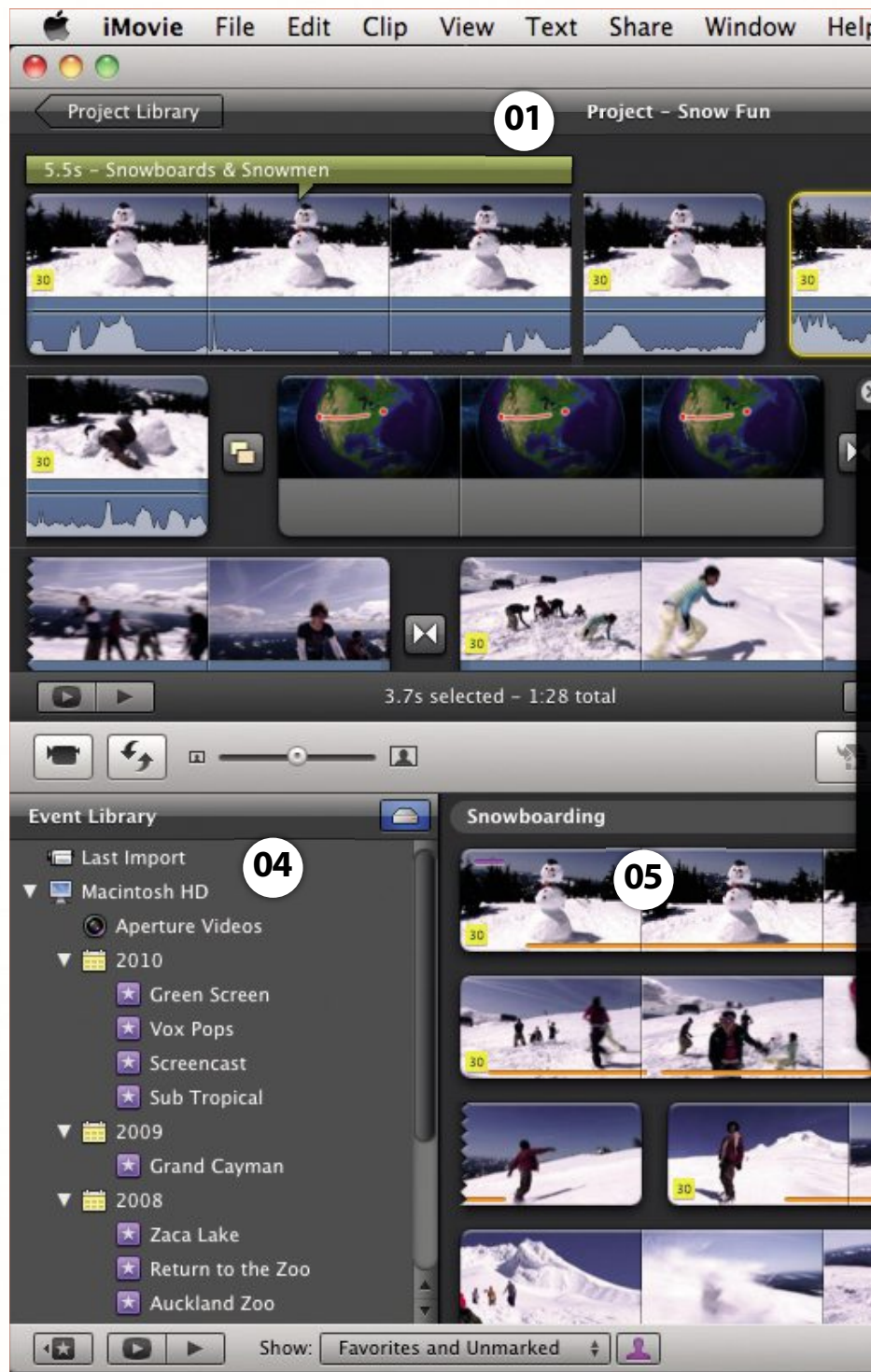
"iMovie '11 has some fantastic audio-editing tools, which means you can finally give your audio the attention that it deserves"

>> GOING PRO

iMovie is spectacularly good at what it does, but if you want to take your movie-making beyond the confines of its easy-to-use interface then there's *Final Cut Express 4.0* (£129). Note there's a large step up in terms of



difficulty. Bridging the middle ground between them somewhat is Adobe's new *Premiere Elements 9*. The app is more like iMovie than *Final Cut*, but it gives you a lot more options, like multitrack editing, for example.



01 Here's where you build your projects from the clips in your library. You can either display them like this (butting up from left to right), or use a traditional timeline view.

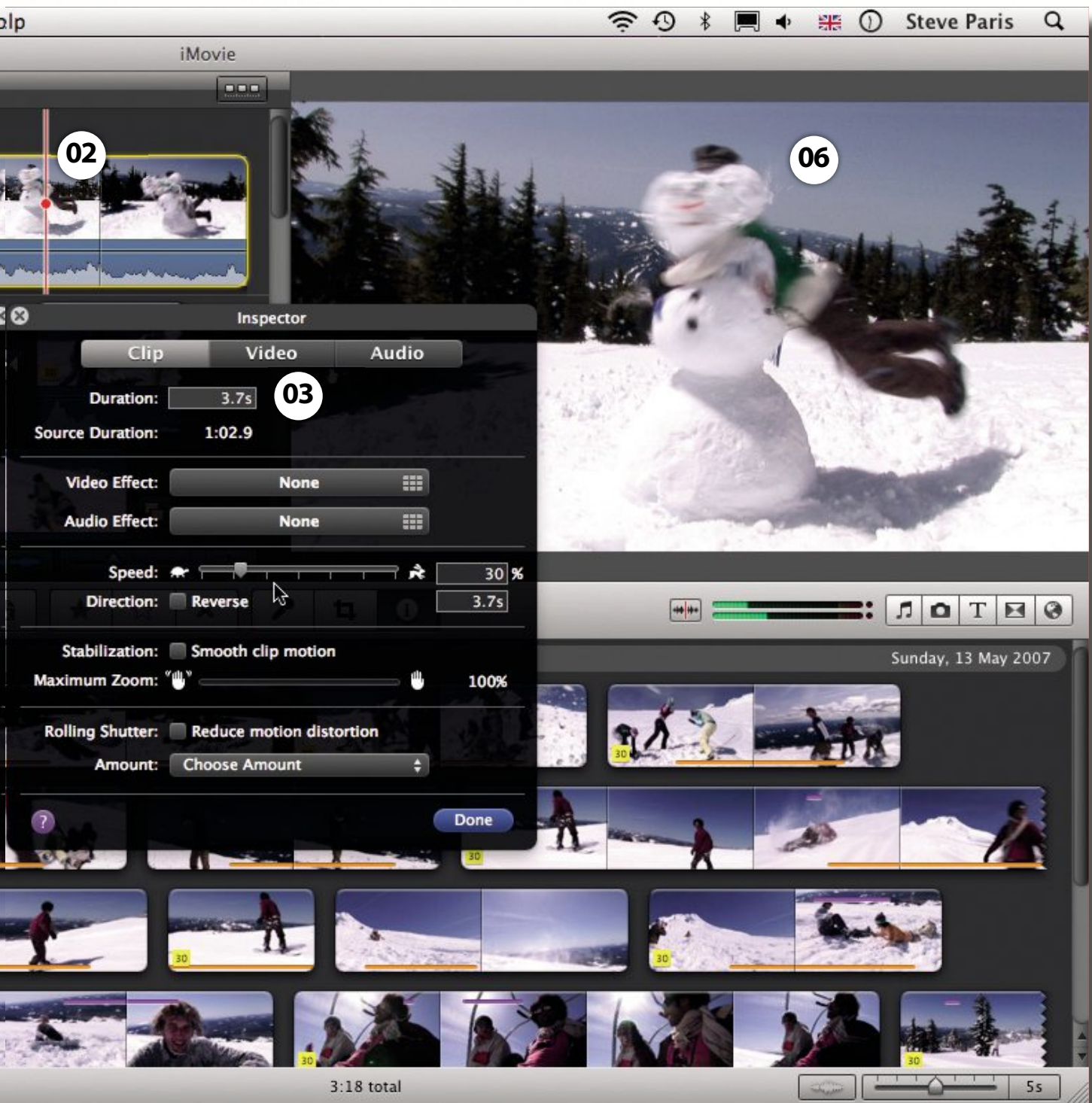
02 The vertical red line represents your playhead. You can play/pause by tapping the space bar on your keyboard. Selected clips appear with a yellow border.

03 The **Inspector** is launched by hovering your cursor over a clip, clicking on the cog icon that appears, then choosing one of the **Adjustments** options that appears.

04 *iMovie* organises your imports into **Events**, a bit like *iPhoto* does. They appear in date order, which makes it easier to find clips. These source files can be very large.

05 All the clips in the selected **Event** are shown here. You can crop out areas to drag into your project window. There's a button to swap these two windows' positions.

06 This is the main preview window. To view your project full screen, click the **Play Project Full-Screen** button on the bar beneath the Project window.





Make a movie trailer

Build excitement about a forthcoming home-movie production

»»KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY:
Intermediate

TIME NEEDED:
30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
iMovie '11, an understanding of the interface, some footage in an Event or Project

Making a movie is hard enough, but designing a trailer for it and condensing the essence of your story into a minute and a half without revealing too much or cramming it with just your best parts is even more difficult. At least it would be, if you didn't have iMovie '11. One of the most advertised features of this new version of Apple's video-editing program is its ability to do most of the work when you've decided to design a trailer.

All you have to do is supply the shots it requires and the results will look impressive. That's the theory, anyway. In reality, things are a little more complicated. Apple's engineers have done a great job of explaining

with images which type of shots are required. They can't go and do the job of choosing the right one for you, but at least they can help narrow down your clip search.

Coupled with the **Movie Trailers** feature is another extremely useful new tool added to iMovie's arsenal: the ability to identify people within your footage and determine which type of shot you were recording for each clip. This isn't like **Faces** in

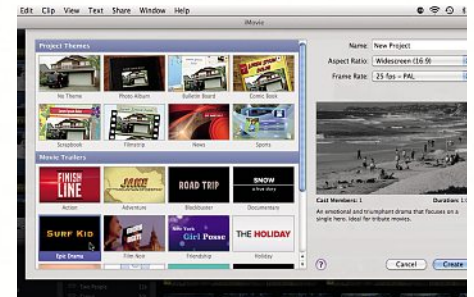
"Coupled with the Movie Trailers feature is another extremely useful new tool..."

iPhoto: it won't be able to discern whether you've shot Jane or Jack, but it will be able to tell you if you've got one or more people in the shot. Once that information has been determined by iMovie, you'll find making a trailer a much easier and rewarding experience.

We'll be using this tutorial to guide you through the initial steps of creating a project using one of the new **Movie Trailer** themes. This is a big subject and we can't cover it all in just eight steps, but we will be able to get you started, so you can enjoy this new feature. We'll cover other parts of this process in detail in future issues. For now, let's see what iMovie '11 has to offer off the bat.

Steve Paris

>> HOW TO / Get started making a trailer in iMovie '11



01 Finding people

Let's start by analysing your clips. You can do this with one, some, or all your **Events**, but this can be very time-consuming. To select one, click on it; for two, **⌘**-click on another. For all of them, go to **Edit > Select All Events**. Then, go to **File > Analyse Video > People**.

02 Initialising keywords

You must reveal some concealed features to help you in the forthcoming steps. Go to the **Preferences** window (hit **⌘**+**⌘**) and tick **Show Advanced Tools**. Next, reveal the **Keyword** pane by clicking on the magnifying glass icon, bottom-left of the interface.

03 Previewing themes

Go to **File > New Project**. At the bottom of that drop-down sheet are the 15 new trailers you can work with. To help you decide, click on one and watch a trailer based on your selection in the preview pane to the right. The music you hear will be the same as the one used for yours.



04 Initial settings

Once you've chosen, name your project (in the field top-right of the drop-down sheet), select your aspect ratio (you can choose either standard or high-definition) and your frame rate (which will most likely be PAL at 25 frames per second for us Europeans). Then click **Create**.

05 The Outline

The regular project pane will be replaced with an outline of your story. Mouse over each editable field to see a preview of how it'll get used, top-right of the interface. Customise any text to see the changes. Once you're done, click **Storyboard** to start building your trailer.

>> QUICK TIP

The third tab in your **Movie Trailer** is called **Shot List**. Within it, the clips needed for your project are grouped by category so you can see at a glance how many **Wide Shots**, **Close Ups** and **Action** clips you still need to get, for instance. You can also edit your existing choices.



06 Focused selection

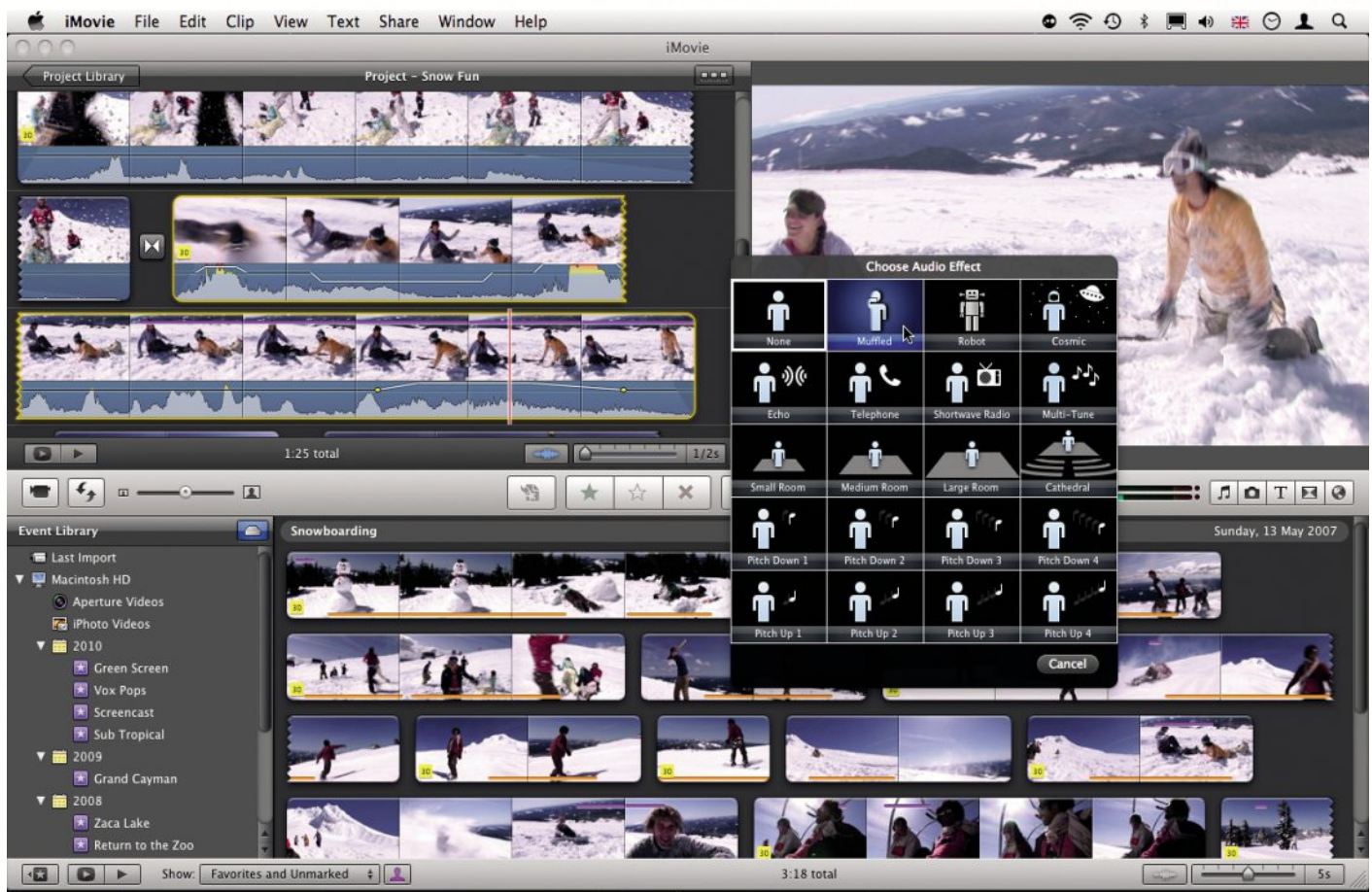
The trailer will be deconstructed into a series of images representing the type of shot that is needed at a specific time. Click on one needing one or more people in it. The **Keyframe** pane will light up the request and the **Event** pane will display shots matching that criteria.

07 Next image

The image you selected will be replaced by the clip you chose and the next image will be automatically highlighted. This will change what is displayed in the **Event** pane so you can focus on finding the shots you want from a reduced selection, speeding up the process.

08 Fine-tuning

If your selection wasn't good enough, mouse over the clip in your **Project** and click on the icon, lower left of the thumbnail. This brings up the **Clip Trimmer** to help you choose another part of the same clip. To remove the clip, click the icon top-right of the thumbnail.



Work with audio

Audio editing is finally back in iMovie! Let's see how it works

»» KEY INFO



DIFFICULTY:
Intermediate



TIME NEEDED:
30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

A good understanding of the interface, some footage in Events and a Project

By the time *iMovie* had evolved into its sixth version, it was an incredibly capable video-editing program, despite being very clunky and confusing for many newcomers. Since Apple always wanted *iMovie* to be the perfect tool for complete novices, they redesigned the program with a strong emphasis on ease of use.

Many features were lost in the first reboot version, which made some reviewers and most advanced users very unhappy. But amid the furore were very happy first-time editors who finally got round to editing their home movies. In 2009, more advanced features made their way into the new *iMovie*, but one in particular was still lacking: proper

audio editing. It was of course possible to mute your clip, or alter its volume by a certain amount. You could also normalise its audio (raising the volume so that the loudest point automatically goes to the highest volume while bringing everything else up accordingly). But it was impossible to gradually increase the volume over two seconds in the middle of a clip, then let it fade back down again for one second, for instance.

"Apple has introduced audio editing, but made it as enjoyable to use as possible, to match video editing"

This is no longer the case with *iMovie '11*. Apple has thankfully re-introduced audio editing, but made it as enjoyable to use as possible, to match the way video editing now works in that program.

You can now perform various functions from within *iMovie*, without ever having to visit *GarageBand* for your audio work: the example described above is easy to achieve with this new version. You can also see very quickly where your sound is peaking (getting too loud) and reduce that portion accordingly; you can apply special audio effects to have a little fun with your project in the same way as the video effects currently work. You also have access to an equaliser! **Steve Paris**

>> HOW TO / Manipulate audio in your movie clips



01 Revealing waveforms

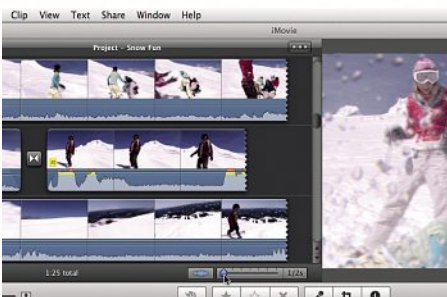
Launch *iMovie* and open one of your existing projects (or create one from scratch). Bottom-right of the **Project** section is the usual thumbnail slider. To its left is a new button. Click on it to reveal your clips' audio waveforms. You can do the same with your selected Event.

02 Volume changes

Notice the horizontal line three-quarters of the way up each clip's audio waveform. Moving the cursor over it transforms it into a resize tool. When that happens, drag down to lower the volume over the entire clip. As you would expect, dragging it up raises the volume.

03 Fading away

With your cursor over a clip's audio waveform, you'll see a little white circle on either side, near the top. Mouse over one of them. Your cursor turns into a hand pointing a finger. When that happens, drag the circle inwards to fade your audio.



04 Zooming in

While raising the audio in Step 2, you may have seen some parts of the waveform turning yellow or red: they're too loud. You can lower that specific section. Zoom into your footage by dragging the thumbnail slider (lower right of the project section) to the left.

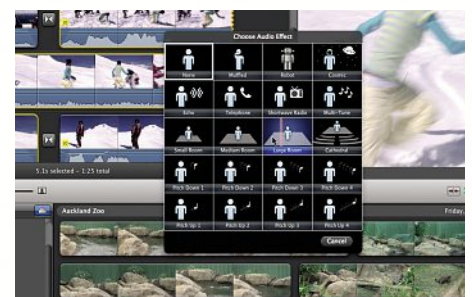
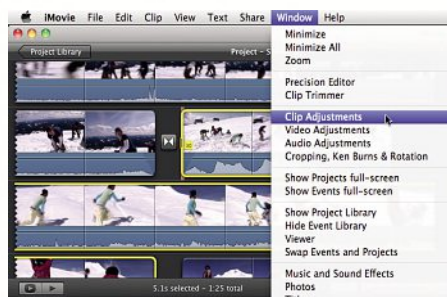
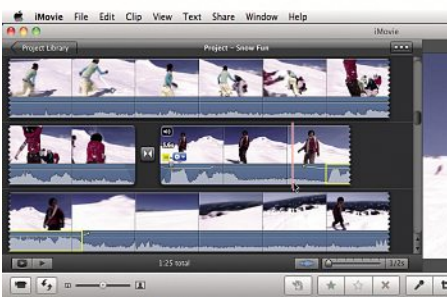
05 Selective alterations

Drag across the waveform to select the section that's currently too loud. This highlights it in yellow (although there are no obvious handles, you can drag either edge to fine-tune a selection). Next, lower the horizontal bar until the red peaks vanish, just like you did in Step 2.



>> QUICK TIP

If you feel a need to have more control over your audio track, try the **Equalizer**. You can get to it by going to **Window > Audio Adjustments**. You can change each setting manually if you like, or choose from one of nine presets.



06 Internal fade

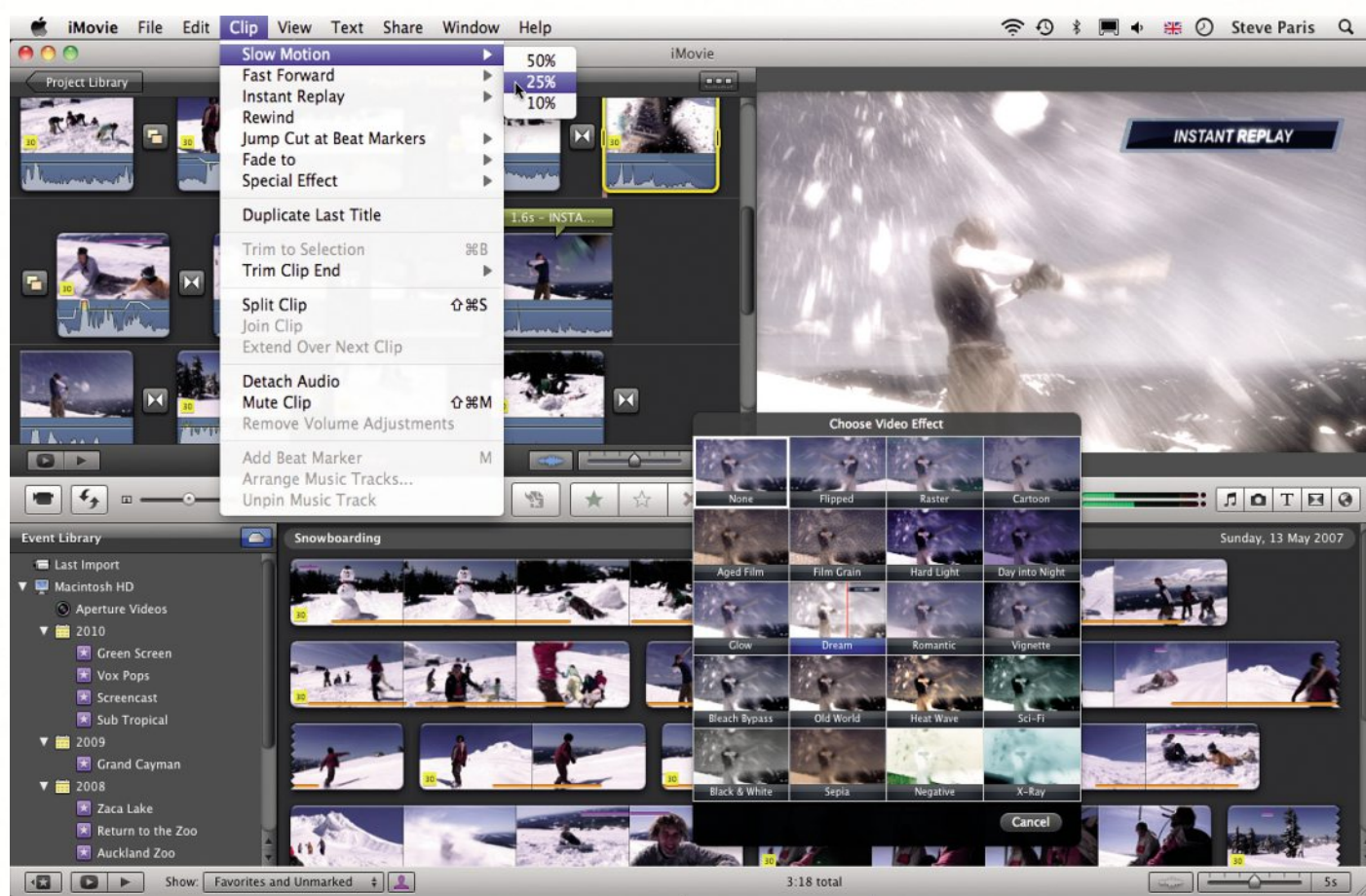
Either side of that specific audio change you just performed is a dot along the horizontal bar. You can drag it left or right to specify how fast or slow the audio levels change from one setting to the other (essentially fading the audio from one level to another within your clip).

07 To the Adjustments

How about having a little fun with your audio? You could make your clip sound as if it was recorded in another location by increasing echo, for instance, or simulating an alien or a robot. To do this, start by selecting a track then go to **Window > Clip Adjustments**.

08 Audio effects

Click the **Audio Effects** button to flip the **Inspector** window and reveal 19 different effects. Hover over one to preview your clip's sound with the effect in place. If you're happy, click on it to set it. As with the **Video Effects**, you can only apply one effect per track. ●



Use One-Step Effects

There are now some effects you can create with just a click of the mouse

»» KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY:
Beginner

TIME NEEDED:
20 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

iMovie '11, footage captured in Events and placed in a Project, understanding of the interface

The goal of iMovie has always been to make our video-editing lives a little easier. Compare it with the other members of the family, namely *Final Cut Express* and *Pro*, and you'll realise how hard Apple worked to simplify the process of cutting a short film and turning it into something that many will enjoy.

In fact, *Final Cut's* interface has remained practically unchanged for more than a decade. All the innovation and excitement currently lies with its smaller sibling, with ideas such as: mousing over a clip to scroll through it and see each frame you're currently over in the main preview section; creating versatile and complex titles with just a few clicks;

seeing a preview of the effect you're about to use before actually using it; adding keywords to your clips and locating the exact one you need in seconds; or being able to see which part of the audio is peaking at a glance, without having to play the footage at all. These make up just a fraction of the innovation that's coming out of iMovie.

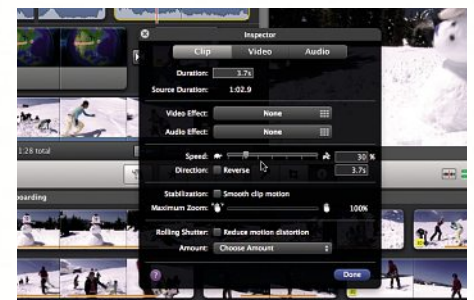
But Apple isn't resting on its laurels. It has come up with another way to

"These new effects are customisable, so you can fine-tune them once they've been applied"

speed up your work with iMovie '11: **One-Step Effects**. The idea is simple: check which effects most people like to use, then find a way to create it even faster than the current method. Apple's engineers have applied this idea to, among others, slowing down or speeding up a clip and making it fade to black and white or sepia. They've also added a few ideas that would have been time-consuming to create otherwise, such as **Instant Replay** and various editing options when cutting a film to the beat of a song. But perhaps best of all, these effects are completely customisable, so you can fine-tune them once they've been applied. We'll take a look at how they work in this tutorial.

Steve Paris

>> HOW TO / Master the One-Step Effects in iMovie '11



01 The highlight

Let's start by slowing part of a clip down. Choose a suitable section in your project then drag on the clip itself to highlight a specific area. Mouse over either edge of that selection to turn your cursor into a resize tool. Then drag those edges to fine-tune the area.

02 Slow Motion

When you're ready, go to Clip > Slow Motion > 25%. This will slow down that portion by a factor of four. You can choose two other speeds, 50% and 10%, and can fast forward a selection by the same amounts. But the really interesting part lies in your Project pane...

03 Customisation

Your clip has been cut in three and the slow-down effect has been applied to the middle part. Select that part and go to Window > Clip Adjustments (or press **I**) to reveal the Inspector. The Speed slider is editable and you can also fine-tune the setting manually.



04 Fade

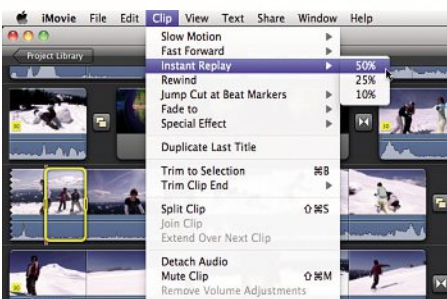
You can do the same with a Fade to effect: select a part of another clip then go to Clip > Fade to > Sepia. Again, your original clip will be cut in three and the effect will be added to the middle. Double-click it for the Inspector, where you can change which effect is applied.

05 Transitions

By default, the transition from the normal clip to the one with the effect applied, is a standard cross-dissolve. Double-click on that transition to bring up the Transition Inspector. Click on the Transition menu and select any other one. You can also alter the duration.

>> QUICK TIP

As you'll have noticed from options in the menu bar, you can also perform One-Step edits to the beat of a song. This isn't automatically done for you: those beats have to be set manually for whichever song you'd like to use. We'll be looking at this in detail in a future tutorial.



06 Replay

Apple added a few new effects to iMovie, one of which is Instant Replay. Select a part of a clip, just as you did in Steps 1 and 4, go to the Clip menu and choose a percentage value from the Instant Replay sub-menu (by default, the replay will be slowed down).

07 Resizing

If you'd rather have the replay action at its regular speed, select the middle clip, open the Clip Inspector and type 100% in the Speed field. The Instant Replay text box will be too long, but you can resize it by double-clicking on it and changing its duration in the Inspector.

08 Editing

Click on the text box above the replayed portion of your clip to select it. Look in the Preview pane. Indeed, the text itself is editable; although you can't alter the font or manually change its size, you can edit the text to whatever you like. ●

Hello, I'm GarageBand

Apple updates its music-making app with some clever new tricks

Unless you play a musical instrument, *GarageBand* is probably the *iLife* app you use the least. If you do have a musical bent though, it's some of the best fun you can ever have with your Mac. You can use it to record any instrument you can plug into your Mac – keyboards are the obvious choice, but it's also possible to plug your guitar in using a number of different third-party solutions. Once you've plugged in, you can add different effects, hit record and start recording your own music. *GarageBand* has built-in drum tracks, bass lines and melody parts, which you can drag and drop into your compositions, or play along to.

The latest '11 release of *GarageBand* features some great new improvements such as **Flex Time**, to help keep your songs in rhythm, and **Groove Matching**, which instantly matches the rhythm of your whole band to a single track. If your musical ambitions outstretch your current abilities then you'll find these two additions especially useful. There are also more guitar amps and effects than ever before, which can help you recreate the sound of classic guitar rigs and pedals.

Finally, if you want to learn an instrument then *GarageBand* can also help out – with its music lessons!

"The latest '11 version of Apple's GarageBand offers some great new features, including Flex Time and Groove Matching"

>> GOING PRO

In many ways, the next step up from *iLife*'s audio application, *GarageBand* '11, to its professional counterparts – *Logic Express* and *Logic Pro* – is less marked than with the other *iLife* apps. The *Logic* interface feels familiar,



you get a bunch of loops as you do in *GarageBand*, and even the basic methodology – using analogue recording and virtual instruments controlled by a MIDI keyboard, layering up multiple tracks – is identical.



01 *GarageBand* enables you to add more than 100 tracks to a single project, so it's worth putting everything on its own track. You can then mix and balance separately.

02 Each track has its own controls, too, so you can mute them to enable you to concentrate on tricky bits, alter where they appear in the stereo mix and more.

03 It's likely that much of your *GarageBand* track will be created using a MIDI keyboard. No actual audio is recorded in this case, but rather what keys you're pressing.

04 You might also want to hook up a guitar and lay down some licks. *GarageBand '11* comes with even more convincing digital amps and stomp box effects built right in.

05 You have huge amounts of control over how these amps sound. Twiddle knobs as you would in real life – or you can trust Apple and simply work from a preset.

06 Dig a little deeper and you'll discover the effects that you can add to your tracks. Reverb, distortion and even a full visual EQ are all just a click away.





Improve your piano skills

Become a better pianist with GarageBand's new 'How Did I Play?' feature

»»KEY INFO

 **DIFFICULTY:**
Beginner

 **TIME NEEDED:**
15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
GarageBand '11 (part of iLife '11), a USB MIDI keyboard

One of the most overlooked components of *GarageBand* '09 was its set of lessons for budding pianists and guitarists. Apple provided a bunch of high-quality video lessons that enabled you to gradually improve your piano and guitar skills, mostly by playing alongside the mildly smug on-screen teacher Tim. Live notation and multiple camera angles meant that even total novices suddenly had the means to improve their talents, with time being the only cost.

GarageBand '11 more than doubles the number of basic lessons available, taking the total to 40; and along with generic 'basic' lessons for each instrument, there are also genre-specific ones, such as 'classical piano'

and 'blues guitar'. As before, the lessons also happen to be free, assuming you stick to Apple's own ones rather than the 'artist' lessons supplied by the likes of Sting and Norah Jones.

But the latest *GarageBand* isn't only about providing more content – with the new 'How Did I Play?' feature, your prospects of improving are greatly increased. In a sense, Apple has turned this aspect of

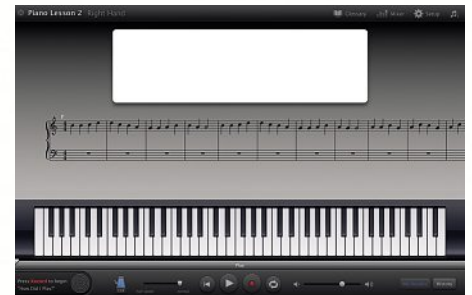
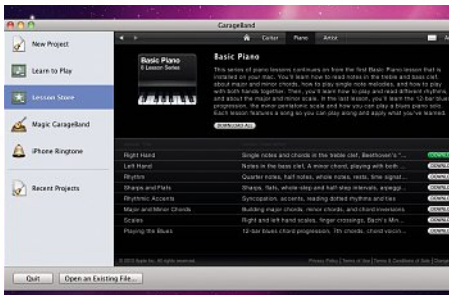
"With the new 'How Did I Play?' feature, your prospects of improving skills are greatly increased"

GarageBand into a kind of serious take on rhythm-action video games such as *Guitar Hero* and *Tap Tap Revenge*. You start recording yourself playing along with the Apple teacher, and you get instant visual feedback that shows how well you're doing. Correct notes are highlighted in green, bum notes are marked red, and yellow denotes timing errors.

Once you've muddled through to the end, you're awarded a percentage score that will then be added to a progress graph with which you can track your progress over time. This way, you can find out if you're on your way to becoming the next Jools Holland/Eric Clapton, or whether you might as well wear boxing gloves.

Craig Grannell

HOW TO / Learn to play the piano with GarageBand '11



01 Download some lessons

GarageBand doesn't come with many lessons preloaded; instead, you're expected to download the ones you're interested in. Go to **Lesson Store**, choose **Basic Piano** and click a couple of the **Download** links. Lessons are quite weighty, so they may take a while to download.

02 Get started

Ensure you've got a USB or MIDI-compatible keyboard connected to your Mac, and then click **Learn to Play**, select a lesson and click **Choose**. GarageBand will go to full-screen mode, and the lesson will automatically start playing. Watch the entire video through.

03 Switch modes

Hold your mouse cursor over the main viewing area (where Tim was previously strutting his stuff) and you'll see the learn/play menu. Click play and part of the lesson will be loaded, along with relevant notation, ready for you to begin recording your efforts.



04 Record yourself

Initially, it's best to play along with a metronome, since it helps you keep time; therefore, click it so it lights up. Next, click the record button. You'll be counted in and can then start playing notes you learned in the lesson. When you're finished, you'll get a score.

05 Review your efforts

Drag the playback head to any point along the recording and press play, or hit [Space], to review your performance alongside the teacher's. Click **My Results** - the recording area is greyed out and only the teacher's performance is heard; click again to revert.

>>QUICK TIP

If in more advanced lessons you're finding it a struggle to keep up with the notes being played, drag the speed slider towards (or to) half speed. The teacher's voice will be muted, but his notes will be played back more slowly.



06 Track your progress

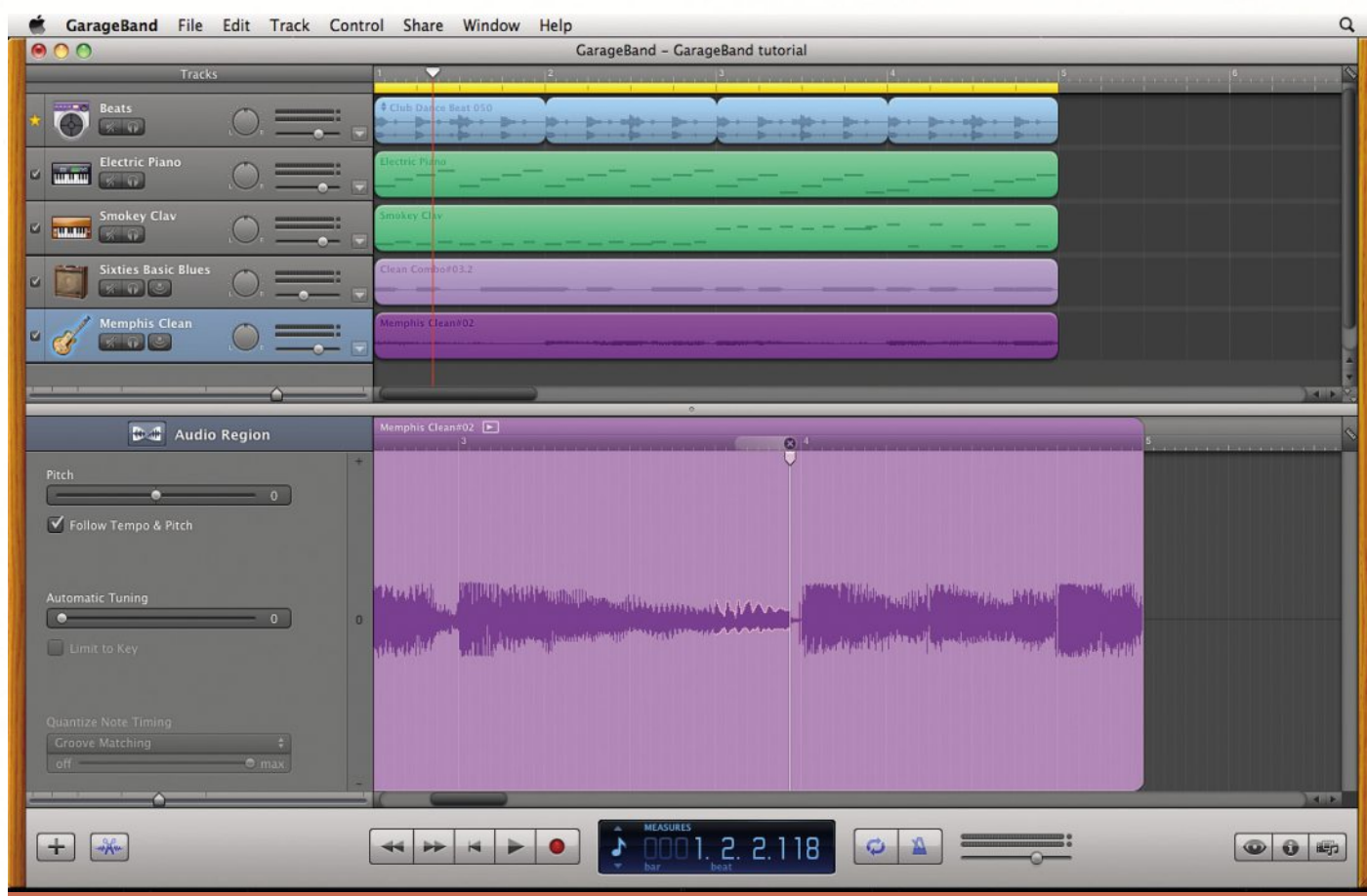
Each time you make a new full (not partial) recording, GarageBand will store the data. Click the **History** button in the bottom-right corner and you'll see a graph that, with a little luck and a following wind, will show an upward curve as you improve over time.

07 Hear old performances

Click the **High Scores** button to the right of the **Progress** header and you'll see your efforts for the lesson, each displaying a bar that shows the portions you got right and wrong. From this screen and the previous one, you can select a lesson and click **Review** to load it.

08 Fire the band

Although it's lovely that Apple has you playing alongside an orchestra, all those string instruments can be distracting. Click **Mixer** and mute **The Band** to get rid of the orchestra. You can also use the volume sliders to adjust your instrument or the teacher's.



Improve your timing

Improve your timing with the new Flex Time and Groove Matching

»» KEY INFO

 **DIFFICULTY:**
Intermediate

 **TIME NEEDED:**
15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

GarageBand '11, a USB/MIDI keyboard (preferable), an electric guitar and Mac interface (preferable)

»» ON THE DISC

 Find the tutorial file on the disc.

Timing is important in music; in many cases, it makes the difference between a great track and a cacophony. Most people aren't perfect when it comes to playing guitars and keyboards, no matter how much they practice. You might be surprised that's even the case for professional musicians – what you hear on albums and singles is very rarely live-recorded output; instead, you get the end result of countless hours of studio tweaking.

In recent years, tools that once cost thousands of pounds have filtered down to the consumer level, and *GarageBand* provides plenty of power under the hood. Previous versions of the application enabled you to tidy timing to a certain extent, largely with

forced quantising; however, that's far easier to apply to MIDI instruments and can mess up live audio such as guitars. In *GarageBand '11*, Apple addressed this shortcoming with two new features that enable you to improve a multi-track live recording in less time than it takes to boil a kettle.

The two new features are **Groove Matching** and **Flex Time**. **Groove Matching** enables you to define a key track referred to as the 'groove track';

"New features enable you to improve a multi-track recording in less time than it takes to boil a kettle"

GarageBand analyses other tracks and aims to make their timing and rhythm conform to the groove track, but in a 'human' manner. Therefore, if your groove track is a shuffly drum-beat, the other tracks will be looser than if your groove track is a metronomic electronic dance beat. In contrast to 'global' **Groove Matching**, **Flex Time** provides the means to amend the timing and duration of single notes by dragging parts of audio waveforms.

The tutorial assumes you have a keyboard and guitar connected to your Mac. However, a .band file is also on your disc, if you just want to experiment with the new features and not set up a song yourself.

Craig Grannell

HOW TO / Fine-tune your timing in GarageBand



01 Set things up

Open *GarageBand* and select **Keyboard Collection** from the **New Project** menu. This creates a project with keyboard tracks. Open the loops browser, select **All Drums** and drag **Club Dance Beat 50** to the timeline – a **Beats** track is created. Loop the sample four times.

02 Record some keyboard

Turn on the cycle region ($\square$) and drag the yellow bar to match the four-bar **Beats** content. When you record tracks, this area will loop. Select **Electric Piano**, hit record (or $\mathbf{R}$) and record a repeating four-note loop. If you record multiple takes, click the loop and select one.

03 Record some bass

Select **Smokey Clav** and record a baseline with octaves (A2/A3 repeating, say). Don't worry about tight timing. If you lack a MIDI keyboard, you can record your own parts by using **Musical Typing** (Window > Musical Typing or $\square + \mathbf{K}$) opens the window).



04 Select a groove track

Hold the mouse cursor over the left edge of the **Beats** track and click the star that appears. This defines the drums as the groove track. You may need to click **Continue** to enable *GarageBand* to analyse and fix the other tracks. Note: you can only define a single groove track.

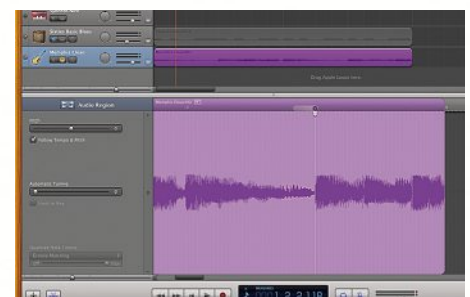
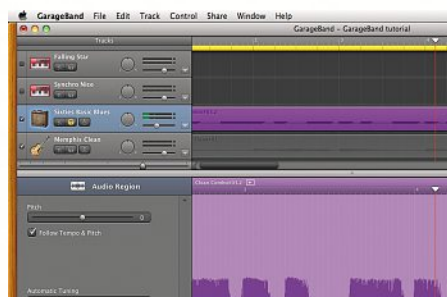
05 Toggle matched tracks

On selecting a groove track, you'll see that every other track now has a checkbox to its left. When checked, this means the track follows the groove track. With the keyboard tracks, play them through, uncheck the checkbox, then play again to compare them.



>>QUICK TIP

While *GarageBand*'s new timing features go a long way to improving imperfect audio, the best fix is to have tighter timing in the first place. *GarageBand*'s metronome helps – click it (or hit $\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{U}$) before recording to activate a 'click' to keep time to.



06 Custom quantise

Because **Groove Matching** is a form of quantising, it overrides existing settings. If you need to override, uncheck the track's checkbox, open the track editor ($\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{E}$) and define a value for **Quantize Note Timing**. With **Groove Matching** on, this will display 'Groove Matching'.

07 Groove-match guitars

Load the tutorial.band file from your disc. Select the **Sixties Basic Blues** track and uncheck the track's checkbox. Solo and play it; it's pretty bad. Now check the checkbox and play it again. As you can see, timing errors in the live guitars are fixed by **Groove Matching**.

08 Use Flex Time

Mute **Sixties Basic Blues** but no other tracks. You'll notice Memphis Clean's guitar in bar three stops short. Double-click the waveform to open it in the editor. Click slightly to the left of the gap and drag to the right. The waveform is stretched – improving the track. ●



Rock out in GarageBand

Use GarageBand's stomp boxes and amps to power up your electric guitar

»» KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY:
Beginner

TIME NEEDED:
5 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
GarageBand '11, an electric guitar connected to your Mac

There's a certain type of traditional musician that seems to think computers and digital tools are some kind of evil incarnate with extra evil on the side. Quite often, these people are electric guitarists, who rattle on about 'keeping it real' and claim 'the computer does everything for you'. Clearly, they're completely oblivious to the fact that almost every rock album in recent years has as much behind-the-scenes production as electronic music.

The reason behind this is control and flexibility. In days gone by, you'd record to tape, and if you decided later that your guitar effects setup made it sound as if you'd been playing inside a dustbin, you'd have to start

from scratch. Today, digital tools enable you to record 'clean' guitar into a computer and then add, remove and experiment with effects, all without affecting the notes and chords.

Since *GarageBand* aims to appeal to all-comers, it offers an interesting means of applying effects to your guitar recordings that's rather more tactile than the typical menu-based approach found in other software. On creating a guitar track, you get to

"What could be more fun for a guitarist than several thousand setups that can be mixed and matched?"

choose from a bunch of predefined setups that combine classic amps and stomp boxes suitable for pretty much every genre. And although Apple provides dozens of options, it's simple for you to devise your own setups.

The walkthrough on the following page takes you through the process; all we've assumed is that you've got your guitar already connected to your Mac. We're pretty sure that you'll be rocking out in no time. And if you are one of those traditionalists, hesitant to stray from real-world kit, give *GarageBand* a go anyway. After all, what could be more fun for an electric guitarist than several thousand setups that can be mixed and matched in seconds?

Craig Grannell

HOW TO / Master guitar tracks in GarageBand



01 Create a new project

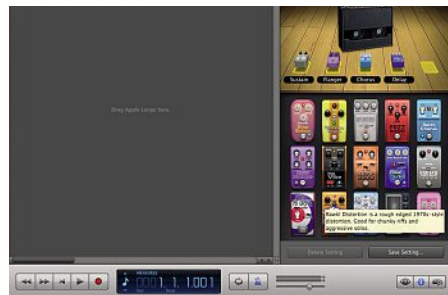
From the *GarageBand* intro screen's sidebar, select **New Project**. Click **Electric Guitar** then **Choose**. Name your project, select a tempo if you don't want to stick with the default 120BPM and click **Create**. An empty project with a single guitar track will be set up.

02 Pick an amp

By default, you'll have **Clean Combo** selected as your guitar track setup. This can be changed by selecting the track, clicking **Guitar Track** in the track info area and picking a new setup from the menu (or by clicking the arrows). Hover the cursor over the amp for a tool tip.

03 Control the amp

Whenever the amp is selected (by clicking it), you'll see a glowing yellow outline. The amp's controls will then be displayed at the bottom of the track info area. These are styled to match the chosen amp, but are always functionally identical.



04 Control stomp boxes

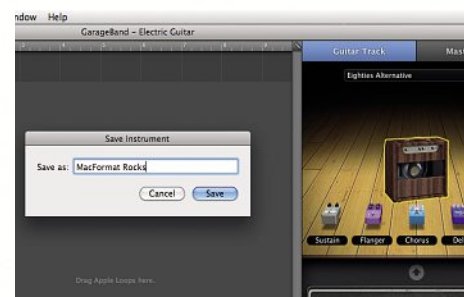
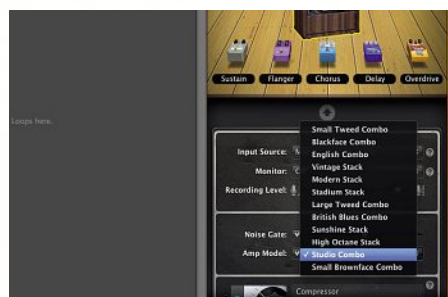
Each of the stomp boxes assigned to the chosen setup can be fine-tuned. To select one, click it – again, you'll see a yellow outline and the controls will show at the bottom of the track info area. Click-drag to rotate the dials, and click the power switch to toggle the box's activation.

05 Access more boxes

Double-click the amp or any stomp box (or click the **Edit** button) to enter the setup edit mode. All available stomp boxes will be displayed at the bottom of the track info area. As with the amp in Step 2, you can hover the cursor over any stomp box to see a description.

» QUICK TIP

If you're not keen on the new way that *GarageBand* handles its guitar tracks, it's still possible to use the older method. When creating new tracks, select **Real Instrument** instead of **Electric Guitar** and use *GarageBand*'s standard effects to change your guitar's sound.



06 Manage stomp boxes

Setups can house up to five stomp boxes. To remove one, simply drag it from its spot (rather like removing an application from the Mac OS X Dock); to add a new stomp box, drag it from the bottom of the track info area to any empty spot.

07 Change your amp

It's also possible to switch your amp for a different one. Select it, then click **Amp Model** and choose from the list. The panel provides control over your input source, recording level, noise gate setting and standard track effects (compression, echo, reverb and so on).

08 Save your setup

If you've spent ages creating a setup, click the **Save Setting...** button, name your setup and click **Save**. For future projects, you'll then be able to select your custom setup from the menu mentioned in Step 2 – your settings will be at the top of the list, above defaults. ●

Take a closer look at

Freeway 5.5

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*"The enhanced tools
in Elements 9 make
panoramas better"*

**NO MORE MANUAL
PHOTO STITCHING P60**

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How to...

● PHOTOS ● MOVIES ● MUSIC ● OFFICE ● SYSTEM



Christopher Phin
Deputy Editor

So with the long dark evenings now upon us, what better way to while away the time than by doing great things with your Mac gear? You've probably already seen our feature *iLife '11* tutorials, but that's not all we've got in store for you this month.

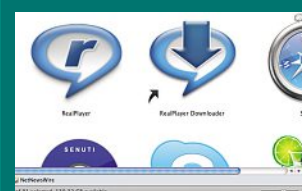
Sharing a printer on your home network can be tricky, so staff writer Laurence Cable has put together a comprehensive guide to get you up and running in no time.

We'll also show you how to master Mac OS X's contacts management app *Address Book*, while Rod Lawton talks you through

turning a series of photographs into beautiful panoramas - not to be missed.

Then we've got a real bumper section on customising Mac OS X. Craig Grannell takes Dock customisation to new levels and adds web browser-style tabs to *Finder*. And then - whisper it softly - he'll show you how to bring some of Windows 7's best features to OS X.

And who could forget *FaceTime*? The video calling service that first graced the iPhone 4 and then the iPod touch has made its way to the Mac. Turn to page 72 to find out how to make free video calls.



>>> DID YOU KNOW?

When you're viewing a *Finder* window as icons (press **⌘+I**), you can alter the size of the icons in it. Just drag the slider at the bottom to shrink or enlarge them.

Create Photoshop panoramas

The enhanced tools in Elements 9 make panoramas bigger and better...

>>KEY INFO



DIFFICULTY:
Intermediate



TIME NEEDED:
15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
Adobe Photoshop Elements 9, a sequence of overlapping images

Photoshop Elements 9 comes with enhanced Photomerge tools that make creating high-quality panoramas easier than ever. All you need is a series of overlapping images taken with the same zoom setting and exposure, and Photomerge will do the rest. (Many compact cameras have panoramic modes designed to do this, and display guidelines to help you frame each overlapping shot.)

It is possible to line up panoramic images manually using layers, but it's almost impossible to get them to line up perfectly because of differences in brightness values, tilt, perspective and distortion. Fixing this manually using the Transform and Lens/Camera Correction tools can take an age, but Photomerge takes care of all this automatically.

But all these corrections produce panoramas with jagged edges, and

usually the only solution is to crop these off and lose a significant percentage of the image area in the process. So the new Content-Aware technologies in Elements 9 take a different approach - Photomerge can now fill the gaps, which means you don't lose any of your panorama.

The repairs aren't always perfect, but most of the time they'll go unnoticed unless you examine the image closely. And if there are areas that have obviously gone wrong, Elements 9 has another enhanced tool which is perfect for putting them right - the Spot Healing Brush.

"Layer masks are one of the key tools for creating complex montages out of several images"

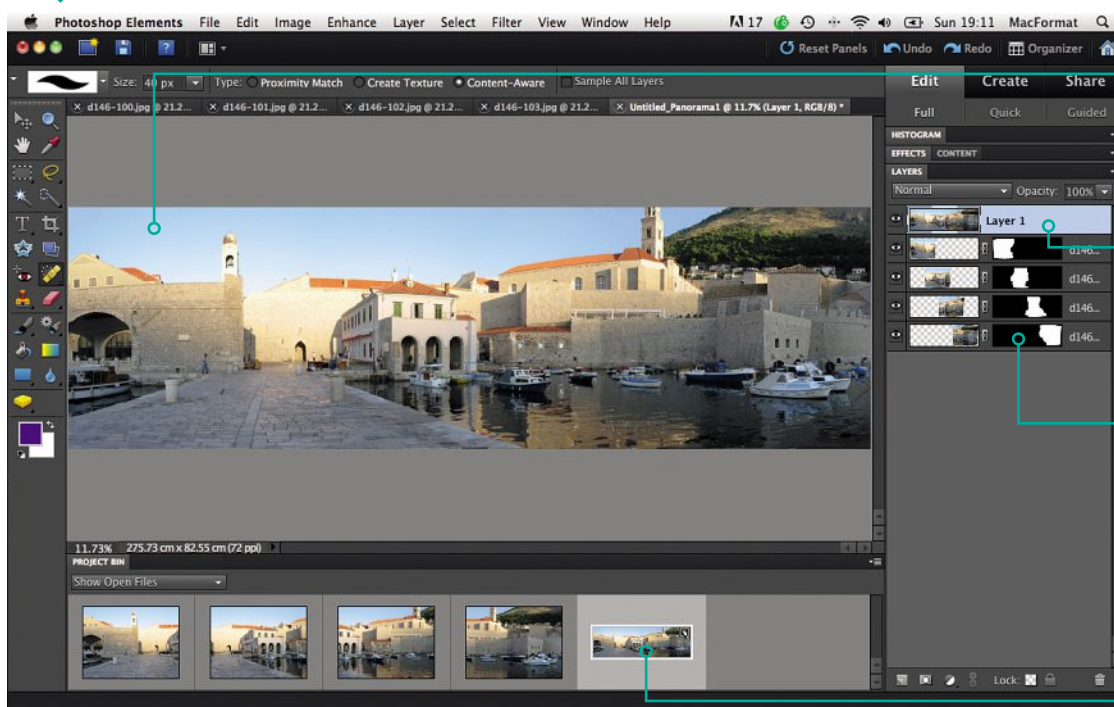
Its Content-Aware mode can produce perfect repairs with a single stroke, whereas before you might have been faced with some tedious and tricky manual cloning.

The other thing you'll notice with Photomerge panoramas in Elements 9 is that they include all the images used to create the panorama as separate layers. You don't need these if the finished image (the top layer) is fine as it is, but they can be useful if you want to see how it's been assembled or make some manual adjustments yourself.

Each layer has an editable mask, which is another new feature in Elements 9. Layer masks are one of the key tools for creating complex montages out of several different images, and their inclusion here brings Elements 9 a big step closer to the abilities of Photoshop itself.

Rod Lawton

>>QUICK LOOK / Useful tools for creating panoramas



Filled edges

The **Photomerge Panorama** tool can fill in missing detail at the edges of the picture.

Image layers

The result consists of the merged image and the layers below.

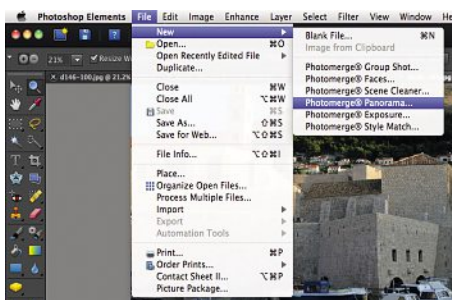
Layer masks

Each of the component layers has an editable layer mask.

Panoramic image

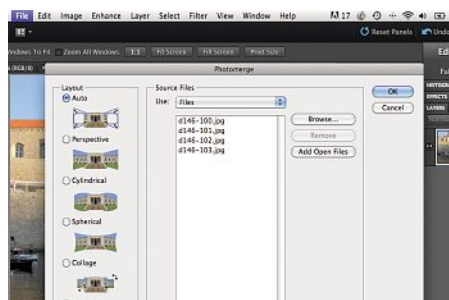
Photomerge creates a new image from the overlapping shots.

>> HOW TO / Create panoramas in Photoshop Elements



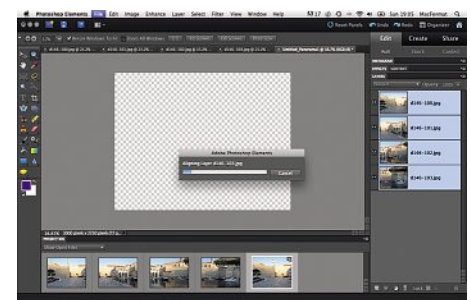
01 Start Photomerge

Open your sequence of individual images. Here they are lined up in the Project Bin at the bottom of the window. Now choose File > New > Photomerge Panorama (as you can see, there are a number of different Photomerge technologies on offer now).



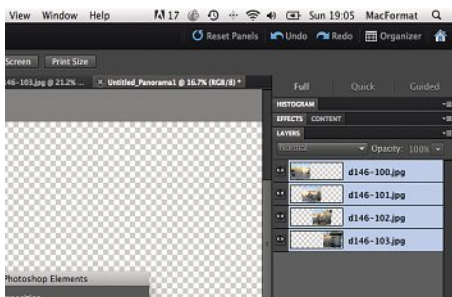
02 Choose layout

It's possible to create panoramas in a number of different layouts, which will vary according to the subject matter and the type of 'projection' you want to create. We can leave the setting on Auto in this instance, and click the Add Open Files button.



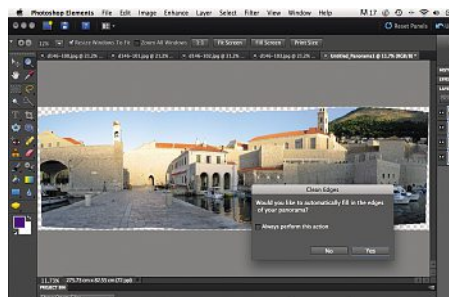
03 Align images

Now Photomerge returns to the main window, where it sets about blending the images. First it combines the separate images as layers in a new composition, then enlarges the canvas and adjusts the position and perspective of the frames so that they overlap perfectly.



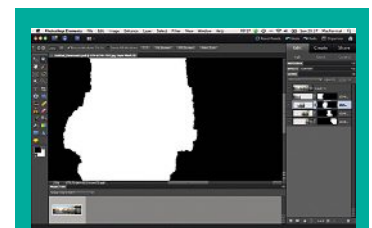
04 Blend images

Here you can see the adjusted frames in the Layers palette. Next, Photomerge blends the individual images together, and it does this by creating layer masks which selectively hide parts of each layer without actually deleting any of the image data.



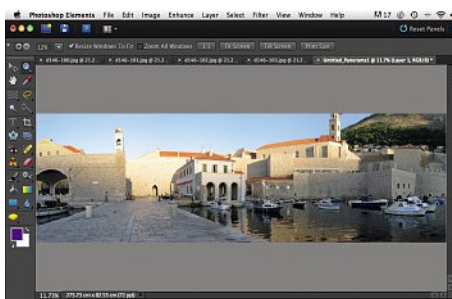
05 Clean edges

The panorama that Photomerge has created has gaps at the edges (sometimes you can get gaps between frames, too). This is normal with merged panoramas; usually you've got no choice but to crop the photo. *Elements 9*, though, has a new feature - Clean Edges...



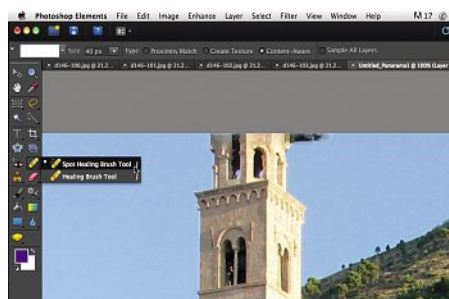
>> QUICK TIP

To edit a layer mask, simply select it in the **Layers** palette. You paint using black to hide corresponding areas of the layer, in white to make them visible, and in shades of grey to adjust the opacity. And if you -click the layer masks, you can view the mask directly (usually you simply see its effects).



06 The 'auto-filled' result

This is the result after Photomerge has filled the edges. It's preserved the full image size (previously we'd have had to crop them). You do have to look closely to see where detail has been 'filled', and the repair is good enough that you don't need to do anything else.



07 Spot Healing Brush

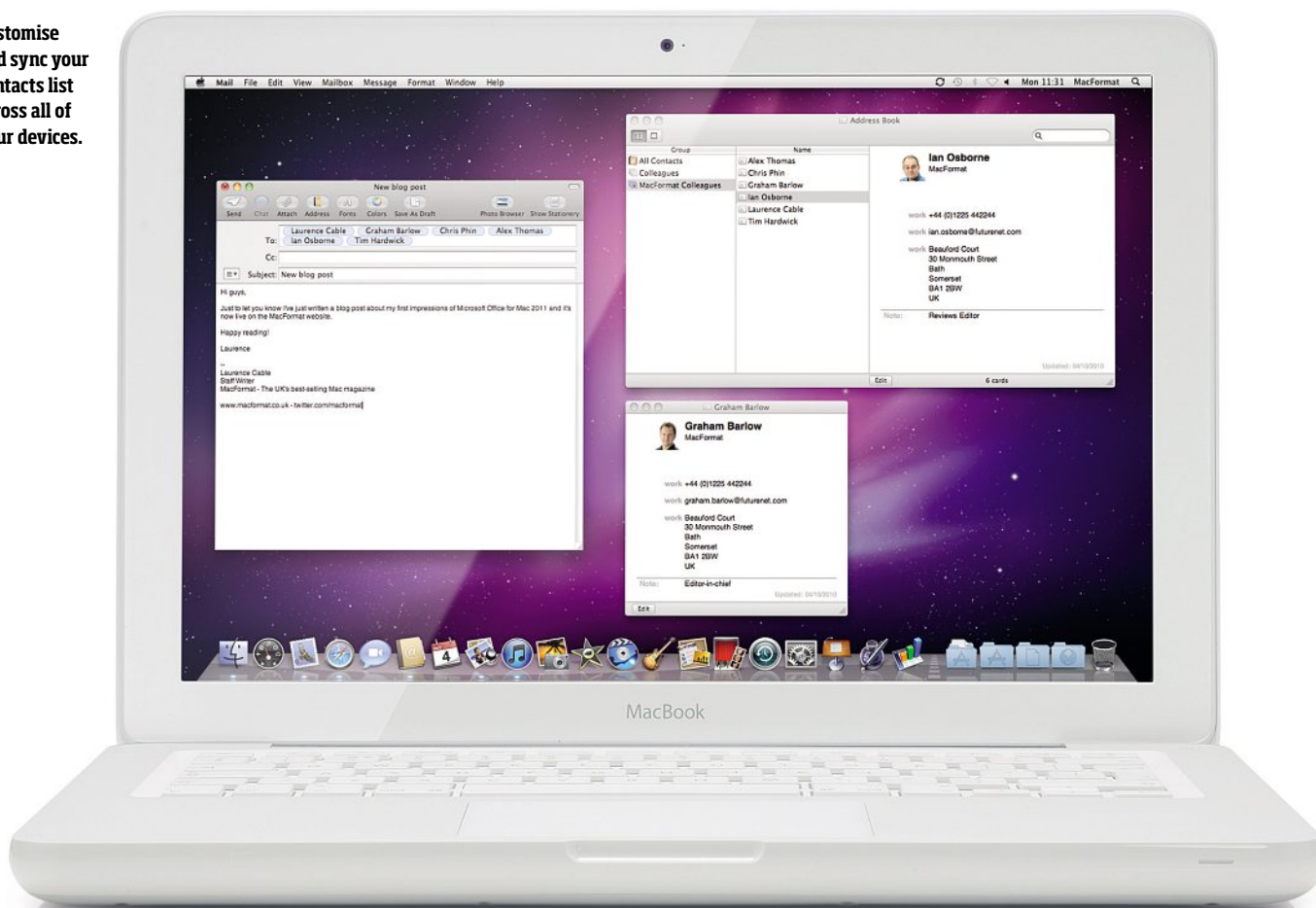
One area where the auto-fill function has produced a poor result is at the top of this tower, where Photomerge has picked up some of the detail from the grassy hillside. Use the Spot Healing Brush, and its new Content-Aware mode (selected on the options bar).



08 'Invisible' repairs

...And Spot Healing Brush fixes the problem. The Content-Aware mode is excellent at finding matching details in the surrounding areas and blending them in. The detail it has substituted here has been 'invented', but the match is so good that no-one's likely to notice. ●

Customise
and sync your
contacts list
across all of
your devices.



Synchronise your contacts

Keep on top of your contacts and access them while you're on the move

»» KEY INFO



DIFFICULTY:
Beginner



TIME NEEDED:
20 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

Internet connection

Once upon a time, emailing was something you did from your study at home or desk at work. All your contacts' details sat on your Mac for when you needed them. But email has changed – you can now ping off messages from just about anywhere, thanks largely to webmail accounts or your phone.

But while there's been plenty said about syncing your email messages between the various systems, your contacts list can get overlooked. And that's where *Address Book* comes in. It enables you to manage your contacts list on your Mac and sync it to your iPhone or MobileMe account, or your Google contacts. You can even set up CardDAV, Exchange and LDAP accounts.

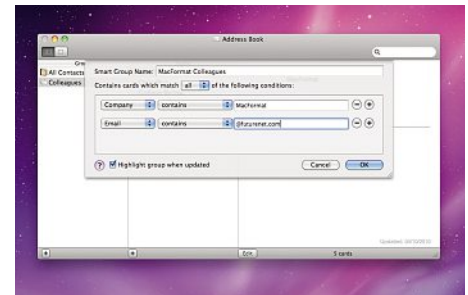
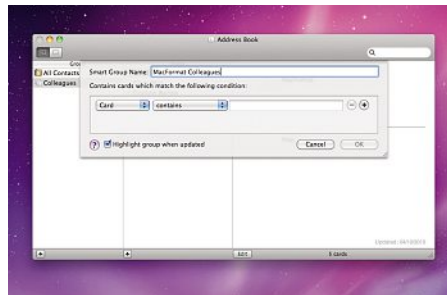
You'll find *Address Book* in your *Applications* folder. To add a contact, just open it up and click the + button below the **Name** column. Fill in the details you'd like to add, and the contact will be instantly accessible from *Mail*. To use it, just start typing the person's name into the **To:** field and you'll see a drop-down of possible matches. If you've added multiple email addresses, such as home and work, you'll see them all.

"Manage your Mac's contacts list and sync it to your iPhone or MobileMe account, or your Google contacts"

If you've got a long list of contacts in a webmail account, for example, let's import these into *Address Book*. In your webmail service, there should be an option to export contacts – do so in the vCard format. Then switch back into *Address Book* and go to **File > Import...** Pick the vCard file you saved and it'll import all the names and addresses for you. You might find you've got some duplicates – you can merge these by going to **Card > Look for Duplicates...** Careful though: you don't get any control over how it merges contacts, so if there are two 'Work' email addresses, one gets overwritten and you can't choose which. If you've got the time, go through them manually.

Laurence Cable

>> HOW TO / Organise and sync your contacts list



01 Organise your contacts

If you regularly send mail to the same group of people, organise their addresses into groups. Click the + below the Group column and give it a name. Then drag the names to add from the All Contacts view. In Mail, type the group's name, and all the addresses are added.

02 Smart groups

Address Book can create groups for you automatically. Smart groups work like Finder's smart folders, in that any contacts that match certain criteria pop up in the group. The more fields you fill in on each address card, the more effective it is. Go to File > New Smart Group...

03 Set conditions

Give your group a name. You can set up any number of conditions that a contact must match to appear in the smart group. Use the leftmost drop-down to pick what you'd like to match, and type into the text box on the right. You can add as many fields as you want.



04 Use it!

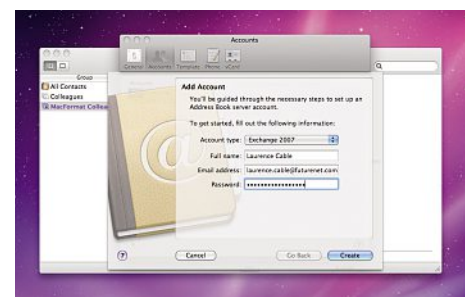
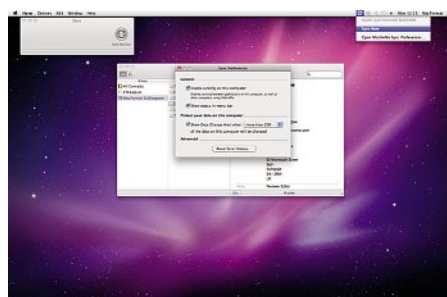
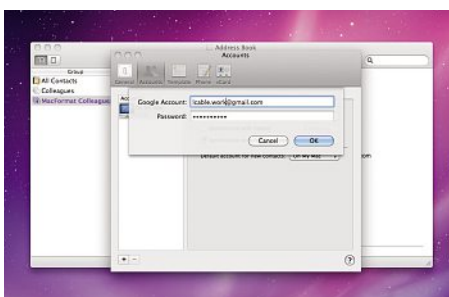
When someone joins your team, fill in their card and they'll appear in the group. See who's in the smart group by clicking it in the Groups pane. To email the group, start typing the group name into the To:, Cc: or Bcc: field. When it auto-completes, click in the main body.

05 Sync to iPhone/iPad

Chances are you'll want access to your contacts on your iOS device. Fire up iTunes and click your iPhone, iPod or iPad in the left column. On the Info tab, tick the Sync Address Book Contacts box and pick which groups to keep in sync. (You can't sync smart groups.)

>> QUICK TIP

If you don't find some address card fields useful, head to **Preferences** and click **Template**. Use the **Add Field** drop-down to tick or untick fields, then use the + and - symbols by entries to add or remove them.



06 Sync to Google Contacts

Now to sync your contacts with your Google account. In Address Book's preferences, click Accounts, select On My Mac and tick Synchronize with Google. Click Configure, type in your details and click Agree. Now find iSync in your Applications folder and load it up.

07 Bring in iSync

Open iSync's preferences and tick Show status in menu bar - you'll see its logo appear in the top-right of your screen. It's now fine to quit iSync - the menu will remain. Selecting Sync Now from this menu matches up your local address list with your Google Contacts.

08 Other account types

If you have a CardDAV, LDAP or Exchange 2007 account, you can pull these contacts into Address Book. Open the Accounts tab in Preferences and click the + below the list. In the pop-up, pick your account type from the drop-down and enter your details. ●

Share a printer on your home network

Make printing from anywhere in your house a doddle



>> QUICK TIP

When sharing a printer via your router, it's always a good idea to make sure the router's firmware is up to date. This will involve downloading a file from the internet and using your router's setup screen to install it. The documentation will tell you exactly how to do this.

Printing services need not be limited to the Mac physically connected to your printer.

For all the talk of a paperless office, there are times when you need a physical copy of something – be it an airline boarding pass, a letter to sign or just a photo for the mantelpiece. Getting the document from your device to your printer is often tricky if your printer's in one room and the Mac you're working on is in another. But sharing a printer on your home network is really easy – and if you've got a MacBook with Wi-Fi enabled it means you can print from as far as your wireless network reaches.

We've put together this tutorial to look at a range of ways you can do it. Some of these methods will use kit you've probably already got, such as a USB printer and a wired or wireless router. But we won't stop there, because there are plenty of other ways in which you can share a printer on your network. Throughout this tutorial, we'll be talking about the **Print & Fax** pane a lot – you'll find it in *System Preferences*, accessed via the Apple menu. And to avoid repeating

ourselves as we go through, you need to make sure you install the driver software that came with your printer on each of the Macs you want to print from. Do this by putting the CD that came with your printer into your Mac's drive, or by downloading the latest version for your model from the manufacturer's website.

"If you've got a Wi-Fi enabled MacBook, it means you can print as far as your wireless network can reach"

Remember also that once you share a printer on your network, it'll be available to PCs as well, so if you have an unconverted friend or relative visiting, they should be able to access it from their notebook.

First off, let's look at the simplest method of sharing a USB printer. This involves hooking it up to one computer (the host) and sharing it so

that other machines on the network can print to it, provided the host Mac is switched on. First, open the **Print & Fax** pane on the host Mac and, if the printer isn't already listed, click +. In the window that appears, you'll see it listed under **Default**. Below, give it a recognisable name, which could be anything from the make and model to 'My colour printer'. Use the **Location** field to let people know where it is – such as 'Downstairs study'. Then click **Add**.

Printer alert

If the printer is already in the list and you want to alter the **Name** and **Location** information, just click **Options & Supplies**. Once you're happy, tick the box marked **Share this printer on the network**. You may then see an alert that **Printer Sharing** is disabled. In any case, click **Sharing Preferences...** and make sure the box next to **Printer Sharing** in the left column is checked.

Your printer will appear ticked in the middle box – if you have more



» HOW TO / Troubleshoot shared printers

Ever since they were invented, printers have been notoriously temperamental. Things have improved a lot in recent years, but getting your Mac to talk to the printer can sometimes be wrought with problems, especially if there's other hardware in play. If you're having trouble with shared printers, the first thing to do is reset the printing system (right-click the **Printers** column in **Print & Fax**), then reinstall the drivers on each Mac.

If this doesn't help, you need to figure out where the hold-up is. Plug the printer straight into your Mac and see if you can print this way. If you can, it suggests the issue is with the network.

If the printer's connected to your router via Ethernet and you can connect to your router



Ensure your router can see a USB printer's connected.

normally, find out the printer's IP address, either by printing the Network Setup page or by viewing it on its LCD screen. Then open *Terminal* and type:

ping <ip address> If this returns a timeout, the problem's between your router and printer. Some printers enable you to switch off the wired LAN/Ethernet port, so make sure it's enabled and that the cable isn't faulty. Also have a look in your router's web interface to see if the printer shows up under connected clients. If you've plugged the printer into your router with a USB cable, open the router's setup screen and make sure it can see the printer. If it's a wireless printer you're trying to use, again, make sure Wi-Fi is enabled and that it's connected to your Wi-Fi network.

Even if none of this helps, it should make it easier for you to pinpoint where the problem is, and therefore which support team to contact.

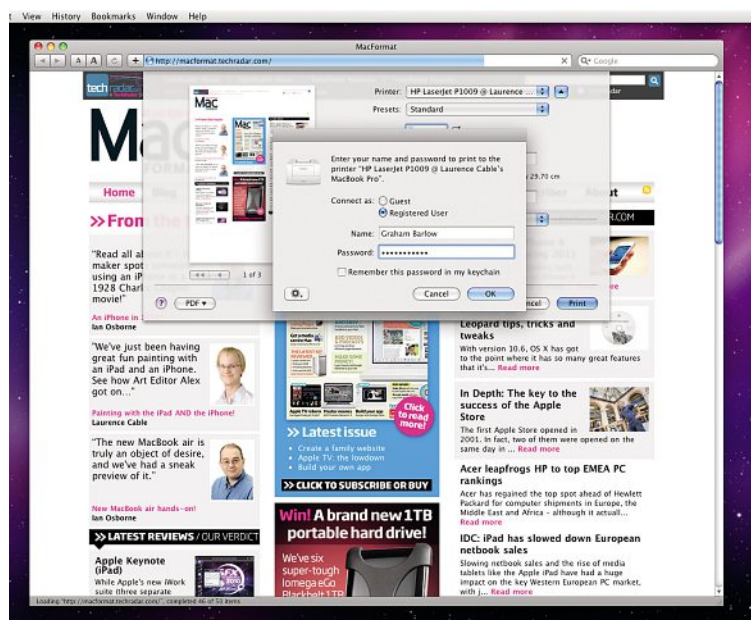
than one, you can pick and choose which to share. If you have Snow Leopard, you'll see another box on the right. Use it to select who can and can't print to each printer. In most cases, such as your home network, you'll be fine leaving this set to **Everyone**, but you can add specific users if you prefer – just click + and add who you'd like to be able to print – it's best to give them the exact names they use to log into their Macs. Give each person a password that they'll have to type in to print.

All you need to do then is to add the printer on each computer you want to print from. Go into the **Print & Fax** pane and click +. Your shared printer should appear under the **Default** tab, showing the name and location you gave it. Click **Add** and you're ready to print.

Off on a print job

The downside to this method of sharing is that you need to have the host machine switched on (but not necessarily logged in) for the printer to kick into action. If the host Mac's switched off, the print job will remain on your local Mac until both are switched on simultaneously, at which point your document will hop across and roll off the press.

So while this setup is simple to configure and almost certainly doesn't require you to buy extra hardware, it's not the most convenient way to go about things. Having to go and switch on your host Mac, wait for it to start up, let the file print and then shut it down again, makes this less



You can password-protect a printer when it's connected directly to one Mac.

appealing. So let's look at some other ways to share a printer.

The first alternative is to hook your printer up to your broadband router directly, so that it's not dependent on a particular Mac being switched on. Some printers, primarily those aimed at small or home offices, will have an Ethernet port, which makes plugging them into any router straightforward. For this system to work as efficiently as possible, remember to leave your

"Some printers will have an Ethernet port, which makes plugging them into any router straightforward"

router and printer switched on all the time, so that you can always print at the click of a button.

Setup will vary between printer models, and with some it'll just be a case of plug and play, especially if your router's set up as a DHCP server and you've got the printer drivers installed on your Mac. Simply click + in the **Print & Fax** pane and the printer should be listed under **Default**. If it isn't, you may need to configure it manually using the **IP Printing** tab. This will probably involve looking up your printer's IP address, which you can do via its built-in display, and most models will print you out a sheet containing all the vital network details. For more information on setting this up, have a look at



» QUICK TIP

Some routers come with software that you install on your Mac. It's usually designed to make printer sharing even easier, especially when using a USB printer. To ensure everything works as it should, install this software on each Mac on your network before trying to print.

>> QUICK TIP



If you've got an iPhone, iPod touch

or iPad, you'll soon be able to print to shared printers. Version 4.2 of iOS, which wasn't out at the time of writing (but should be when you read this), adds AirPrint, although a full list of compatible printers hasn't yet been announced.

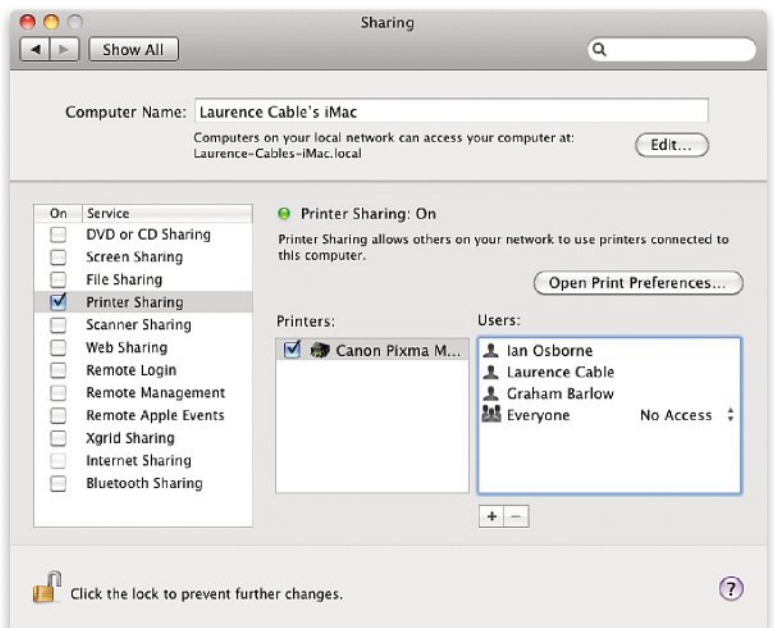
your printer's documentation. We've always found an Ethernet link to be one of the easiest methods to set up and most robust in use, so if your printer and router have both USB and Ethernet ports, use the latter.

Networking USB printers

If your printer doesn't have an Ethernet socket, there are now many routers and network-attached storage (NAS) boxes with USB ports on them, to which you can connect a printer. Apple's AirPort Extreme or Time Capsule both offer this functionality. These models even enable you to connect more than one device to their single USB port, using a hub. This means you needn't give up the hard drive you use for *Time Machine* backups in favour of a printer, for example. It's worth noting, however, that not all router USB ports support printing, so check that your model does before plugging your printer into it (or going to the effort of investing in a new one).

When it comes to setting this up, some routers may do all the donkeywork for you and the printer will appear in the **Default** area of the **Print & Fax Add Printer** window. Have a look at the walkthrough opposite, where we take you through setting up and sharing a USB printer with a Time Capsule.

Third-party routers may not be so helpful, and could require you to use



The Printer Sharing pane enables you to choose who can print to your shared device.

their web interface to enable the printer, and with others you may have to add the printer using the **IP Printing** tab in the **Print & Fax Add Printer** window. Depending on your router model, getting this to work can take quite a bit of fiddling around with

"If your printer doesn't have an Ethernet socket, there are now many NAS boxes with USB ports on them"

settings and emails to the support team, but check the documentation that came with it first; it should give you step-by-step instructions on how to connect a USB printer so that anyone on the network can use it. One device that saw everything working smoothly, was a new high-end Belkin router, which comes with software you install on each Mac. This guides you through the few steps required to print to a printer hooked up to the router's USB port.

If your printer's ever been linked directly to any of the Macs on your network, make sure you remove its entry from the **Print & Fax** pane on every machine before you connect it to your router and attempt to set it up. If you don't, its presence could cause conflicts when you try to print to it via the router. To remove it, select its old entry in the **Print & Fax** pane and click the **-** button.

One device we haven't mentioned yet is the AirPort Express. This is Apple's wireless printing and audio box, which, at under £90, is an affordable way to network your USB printer if you don't have a router with USB. It links up to your existing network - wired or wirelessly - and enables you to share a USB printer. Switch on the printer and make sure the AirPort Express is connected to your network. Then all you need to do is open up the **Print & Fax** pane and click **+**. The printer should appear in the **Default** tab, so just click **Add** and

>> HOW TO / Set up your old Mac as a print server

If you've got an old Mac sitting in the corner gathering dust, why not turn it into a server for your USB printer? Even if its specs seem lowly by today's standards, chances are it'll work fine for this purpose - we've got an upgraded PowerMac G4 running Leopard as ours. You don't need any special kit, either.

First, connect the Mac to your network - either over Wi-Fi or Ethernet - and format the hard drive. Then put a clean install of OS X onto it and run *Software Update* a few times to make sure everything's up to date. Next, connect the USB printer to it and set it up in the same way as we showed you in the 'Simple setup'



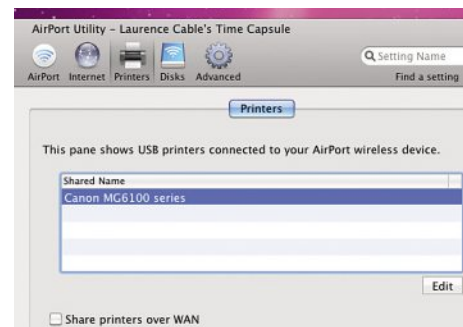
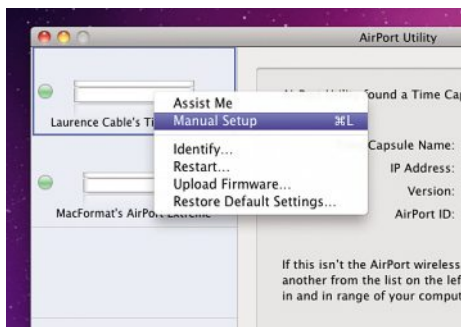
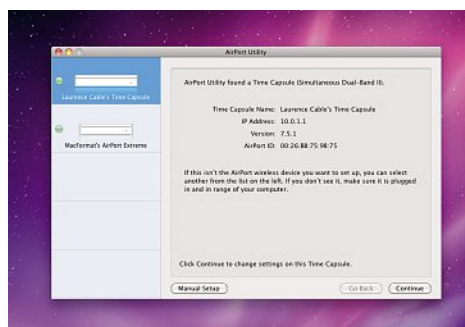
Save money by setting the server to switch off by itself overnight.

section at the beginning of this tutorial, making sure you enable **Printer Sharing** for this printer to everyone on the network. Then go onto another Mac on your network, add the shared printer and run off a test document to make sure everything's working. Then you can tweak a few more settings.

First up, for security reasons, it's worth disabling automatic login on the server. This will mean it never gets past Mac OS X's login screen, but you'll still be able to print. You'll find this setting in the **Security System Preferences** pane.

Next, unless you're going to be printing at all hours of the day, save yourself some money and set the server to start up and shut down automatically. These settings are in the **Energy Saver** pane. Tick **Start up automatically after a power failure**, then click **Schedule...** to set the on and off times. Then log out, remove the keyboard, mouse and screen, and your print server's ready for action.

» HOW TO / Share a USB printer via Time Capsule



01 Get started

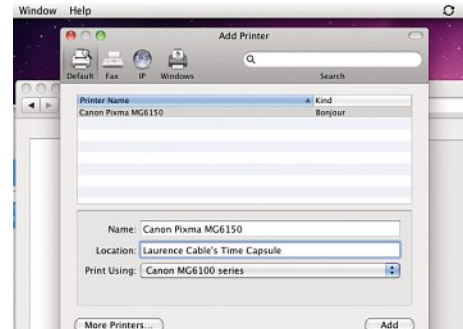
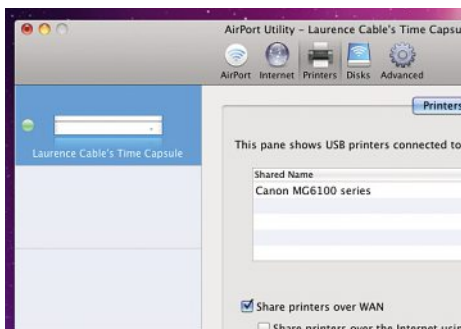
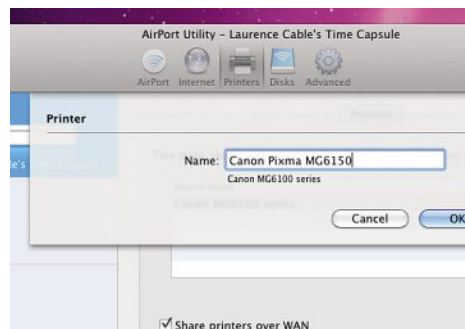
Install the printer driver and Time Capsule software on your Mac, then connect the latter to the mains. In **Applications/Utilities**, open *AirPort Utility* and select the device, then go through the steps to set it up. Let the device restart, then quit *AirPort Utility*.

02 Connect printer

Go into the **Print & Fax** pane and make sure the printer you're about to connect isn't listed there. If it is, click the - button. Then, hook it up to the Time Capsule's USB port, switch it on and re-open *AirPort Utility*. Right-click your device and choose **Manual Setup**.

03 Manual setup

Type the router password if prompted and you'll be taken to the main configuration screen. Click **Printers** along the top and you should see yours listed on the right-hand side. If you don't, make sure the printer's switched on and connected, quit and re-open *AirPort Utility*.



04 Change its name

Your printer will appear on the network under the name you can see here. Depending on the model and driver, this may not be the most memorable or appropriate moniker, so you can change it to anything you like, simply by selecting it and clicking **Edit**. Then click **Update**.

05 Further sharing

If the Time Capsule is your main or only Wi-Fi router, skip to Step 6, but if you're using it in addition to the router your ISP supplied, you'll need to enable the **Share printers over WAN** option. This will ensure devices on your main network can use the shared printer. Click **Update**.

06 Ready to print

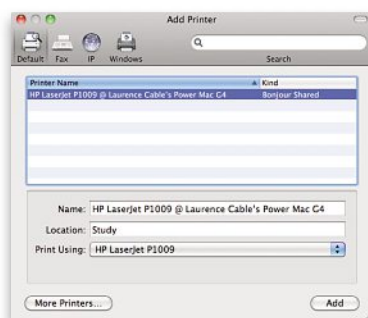
Your printer's now ready to print to from any computers on your network, regardless of whether they're connected over AirPort or Ethernet. Just go into the **Print & Fax** pane, click + and you should see it under **Default** as a Bonjour printer. Select it and click **Add**.

you're ready to print. If you want to share several printers in different locations, you can plug each one into an AirPort Express.

Wireless printers

Some printers will now do away with wires and enable you to print over Wi-Fi. This is an incredibly easy way of doing things, and in some cases doesn't even require you to have a router - but in our experience, it's easier if you do use one.

To set this up, make sure your Mac's connected to the router, either over Wi-Fi or via Ethernet. Then switch on the printer and connect it to your

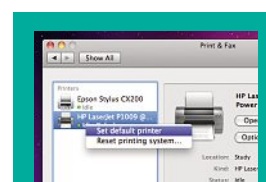


Adding a shared printer should be as easy as selecting its name in the Default list.

Wi-Fi router - the documentation that came with the printer will show you how to do this. Once it's connected, open up your **Print & Fax** pane and

click +. The Wi-Fi printer should appear under the **Default** tab. Click its name and your Mac should detect its driver on the **Print Using** drop-down. In the **Name** field, you can give it a memorable title and enter a location for it, such as 'Study'. Then click **Add**, and your Mac will spend a moment connecting to the printer, after which you'll be returned to the **Print & Fax** dialog, with your newly added printer visible. You can now print to this from your Mac. Again, remember to leave the router and printer switched on for this setup to work efficiently - some printers prefer their sleep mode.

Laurence Cable



» QUICK TIP
To set a particular printer as the default, go into your **Print & Fax** pane, right-click the printer you tend to use, and choose **Set default printer**.

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>> OS X SURVIVAL GUIDE

Spotlight on Find

Tunnelling through a mountain of data in no time at all



>> PROFILE

Name: Christopher Brennan

Occupation: Freelance journalist, Mac consultant and househusband

System(s): Mac Pro (2x2.8GHz), MacBook (2GHz), 20-inch iMac (2GHz), 12-inch PowerBook G4 (1GHz)

You can narrow down the Find criteria on your Mac to the most specific of files; it's flexible and fast.

Every now and again, the pace of technological change jumps up and slaps you in the face. I know you start to sound like an OAP ready for some cocoa and a Werther's Original when you look back all misty-eyed at past technology, but what's the harm in that? I quite like my slippers and a blanket over my knees in an evening. So what triggered this particular nostalgia for tech past? A hard drive. I know, hardly the sexiest of components, but there you go.

Hard drivin'

My Mac Pro shipped with a single 320GB hard drive, which was full after about six months. That hard drive was replaced by a 750GB one about a year ago. And lo and behold, the other day this too was within a handful of gigabytes of being full. Not only am I taken aback that this roomy 750GB hard drive is bursting at the seams, but the fact I can

produce that amount of data in such a short time amazed me too.

With times tough, I thought it better to simply delete the waste on the hard drive to save space and cash. My iTunes library is stored on an external disk, so there were no large media files to delete. So I headed over to the Documents folder and sorted by size. It turned out there weren't many big files to get rid of, but there was lots of stuff that I wanted to keep. Not to

"Since the arrival of Spotlight, I've rarely used Find, but it's still there and more useful than ever... Its strength lies in its flexibility"

mention a host of nested folders that I'd created to keep some semblance of organisation.

Going through them manually would have been a slow process, so it was to the Desktop and a press of keys **⌘+F**. Since the arrival of

Spotlight, I've rarely used good old Find, but it's still there and more useful than ever.

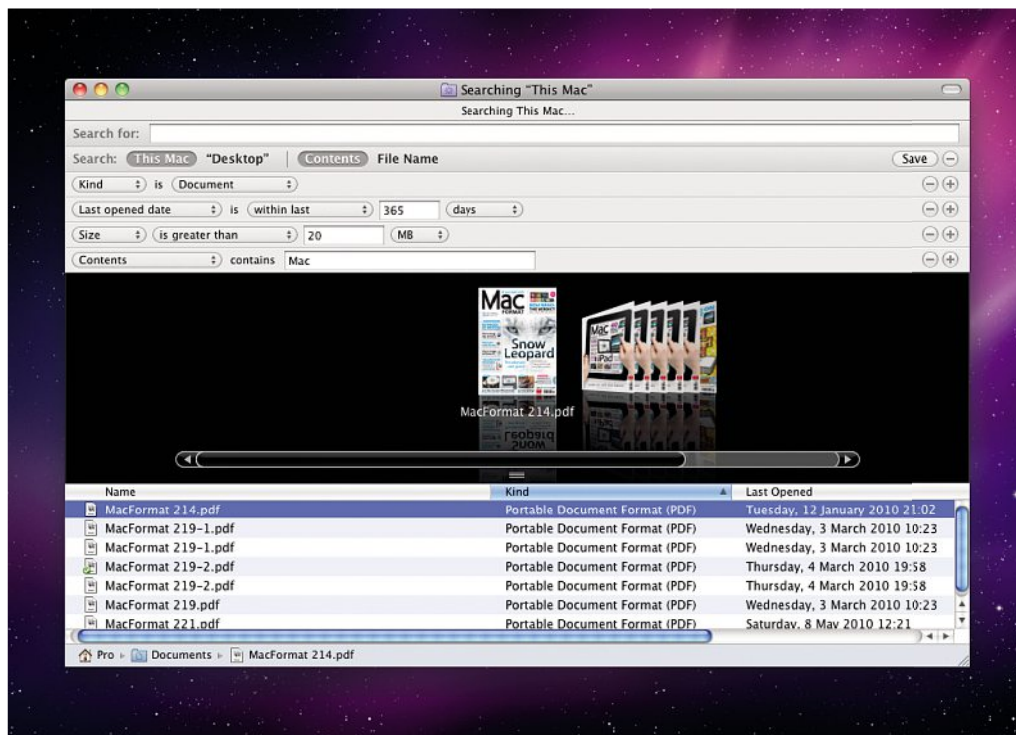
At first glance the Find window is very basic, but its strength lies in its flexibility. Let's say you want to find files that are larger than 1GB - simple. In the toolbar there's a filter already there that sorts documents by kind; by default it's set to 'any'. Click on Kind and a pop-up list appears; scroll down to Size. You can now set your size constraints. In this

case, I set it to 'is greater than' then typed 999 in the box and changed the last drop-down to 'MB'. Instantly I have a list of all the files on my Mac that are 999MB or larger. Even better, click on Save to make it a smart folder that updates automatically. The range of search tools available is amazing; just click on Other to see the other search criteria that are available for use.

Elephantine capacity

Now all I had to do was go through my list and delete all those documents I'd forgotten about, and things I'd downloaded and stored in stupid locations. It didn't matter where they were - Find found them all. It still didn't free up enough space, because I really did need to keep the majority of it.

So now I have what I consider to be a mammoth 2TB hard drive as the main disk in my Mac Pro. I paused for a little while to wonder at the huge amount of data this number represented. I reminisced about the first Mac I owned with its 10MB hard drive, and sat down for a minute with a nice cup of tea and Countdown on the TV. This technology stuff moves fast doesn't it? ●



Tools such as Deeper enable you to get to options Apple likes to hide.



Add amazing Dock effects

Utilise 'hidden' Dock settings and tame your wayward stacks with Deeper

>>> KEY INFO



DIFFICULTY:
Intermediate



TIME NEEDED:
10 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
Mac OS X 10.6, Deeper

>>> ON THE DISC



Find a trial of Deeper on the disc.

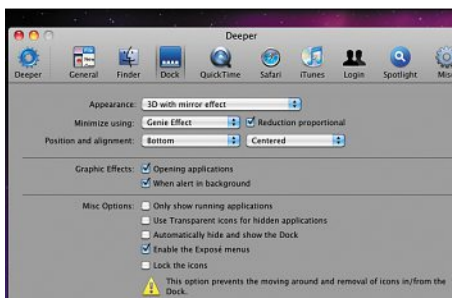
Last month, we showed you how to master and customise your Dock. But we didn't tell the full story, because Apple 'hides' useful options from you. Getting at these settings is straightforward if you use software to do so – in this walkthrough, we use *Deeper*.

Available as a free download from Titanium Software (www.titanium.free.fr), *Deeper* takes the custom options from the popular *Onyx* and welds them to a standalone application that enables you to fiddle with hidden Mac OS X settings. *TinkerTool* (<http://bresink.com/osx/TinkerTool.html>) is in a similar space, but doesn't enable you to add multiple recent-item stacks and spacers to the Dock.

If you're comfortable using *Terminal*, you can avoid software entirely. (Note that before you input any of the following commands, make a copy of `com.apple.dock.plist` from `~/Library/Preferences`. Should you later want to revert to your old Dock settings, trash the updated preferences, drop your copy into the aforementioned folder, and use `killall Dock` in *Terminal* to restart the Dock.) To remove the Dock's glass, use

"Deeper takes the custom options from the popular Onyx and welds them to a standalone app"

defaults write com.apple.dock no-glass -bool YES (replace YES with NO to revert); to make the icons of hidden applications semi-transparent, use `defaults write com.apple.Dock showhidden -bool YES` (again, NO reverts); for each recent item stack, use `defaults write com.apple.dock persistent-others -array-add '{"tile-data"="{ "list-type":1; "tile-type":"recents-tile"; }'}`; and for a document spacer, use `defaults write com.apple.dock persistent-others -array-add '{"tile-data"="{ "tile-type":"spacer-tile"; }'}` (use `persistent-apps` instead of `persistent-others` to add the spacer to the applications side of the Dock). Type `killall Dock` to apply changes.
Craig Grannell

>> HOW TO / Go Deeper into the Dock**01 Get Deeper**

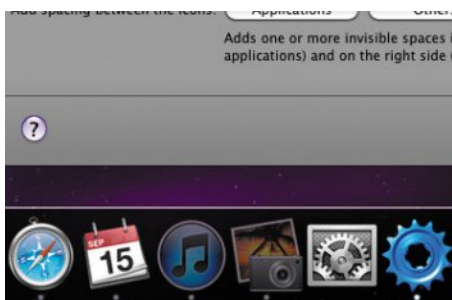
Download, or install *Deeper* from your disc. The app will ask for your administrator's password; type it in the **Password** field and click **OK**. *Deeper* will take a moment to check your existing setup, and it'll then be ready. Click **Dock** on the toolbar to access Dock options.

**02 Remove the shelf**

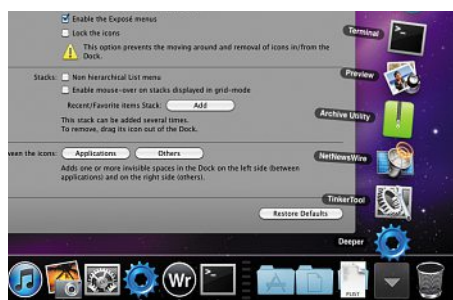
With *Deeper* you can apply a 2D effect when the Dock is at the bottom of the screen, removing the glass shelf that many people find confusing and annoying. You do this by setting **Appearance** to **2D with transparency effect**, then clicking **Continue**.

**03 Reveal hidden apps**

Running applications in the Dock have a dot underneath them, but by default there's no way to flag hidden applications. In *Deeper*, check **Use transparent icons for hidden applications**. Confirm by clicking **Continue**; *Deeper* will relaunch your Dock.

**04 Hide some applications**

Due to the way the Dock's settings work, hidden applications won't immediately have transparent Dock icons. However, the next time you activate and then hide any application, its Dock icon will be semi-transparent, thereby making it easier to tell that it's hidden.

**05 Add a recent-item stack**

Click the **Add** button in *Deeper's* **Stacks** section in the **Dock** options. To the right, you'll see a stack of apps. Click it and it will display a fan of your most recent applications. **⌘**-click the stack and you can change its view options - **Grid** is a good format for this kind of stack.

>> QUICK TIP

Other hidden Mac OS X settings can be got at via *Deeper*. For example, in the **General** section, you can amend where screen grabs are saved. Settings can be reversed, but we nonetheless recommend backing up before making major changes.

**06 Add another recent stack**

⌘-click the stack again - notice the options at the top of the menu. Select one to change what the 'recent' stack shows: apps, documents, servers, volumes or items. Click **Add** in *Deeper* to add a second stack type, so you can have one for apps and one for documents.

**07 Add Dock spacers**

Each time you click the **Others** button towards the bottom of *Deeper's* **Dock** section, a spacer will be added to your Dock's documents area. Spacers can be dragged, so you can group Dock items. Click the **Applications** button to add a spacer to the Dock's applications area.

**08 Change your mind**

If you decide you preferred things as they were, click **Restore Defaults**, and the Dock will return to its standard state. Any added spacers and recent stacks can be dragged from the Dock like any other item. Alternatively, use the preferences trick (see opposite page). ●

Make FaceTime calls on a Mac

Add another dimension to your phone calls with FaceTime video

» KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY:
Beginner

TIME NEEDED:
30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
OS X 10.6.3 or later, FaceTime beta app (<http://bit.ly/dOff7o>), iSight camera

Among the many unveilings at Apple's Back to the Mac announcement in October was the arrival of FaceTime on the Mac. So now you can make free video calls with your iSight camera and talk to other Mac users, as well as anyone with an iPhone 4 or iPod touch. *FaceTime* is a standalone app, which you can download from www.apple.com/mac/facetime. You then sign in with your Apple ID – that's the same one you use for the App Store or iTunes Store. If you haven't already got one, we'll show you how to create one from within *FaceTime*.

Laurence Cable

Adding a contact

FaceTime pulls contacts in directly from *Address Book*, so to add your friend's details, open it up from your **Applications** folder. Go to **File > New Card** and fill in the email address (or iPhone 4 number) they use for *FaceTime*. Now go back into *FaceTime* and you'll see they've been added to the contacts list.

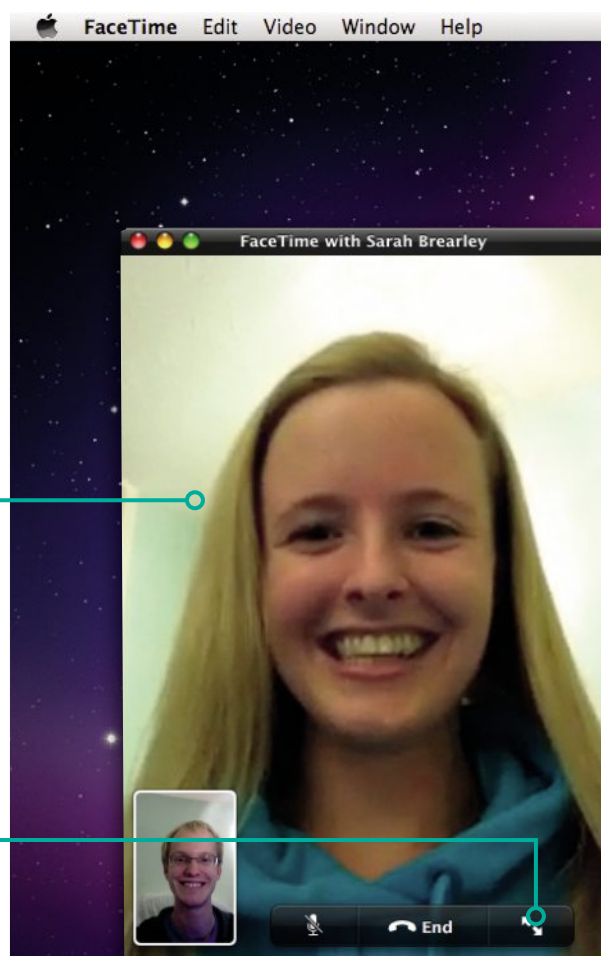


Make a call

To call one of your friends, all you need to do is click their name in the **Contacts** list. The list will disappear and you'll see your own face on the video screen. Once they pick up, your face will shrink to a thumbnail in the corner of the display, and you'll see them in all their glory. Simply talk as you normally would and enjoy some quality *FaceTime*.

Call controls

If you want to see a larger image of the person you're calling, you can click the **Full Screen** button. This will enlarge the video from their side to fill your screen, and your face will be moved to one side. You can also mute your microphone by clicking the **Mute** button; once you've finished chatting, hang up by clicking **End**.

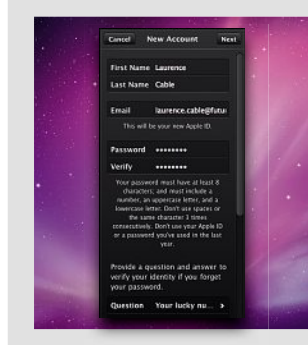


Set up new account

If you haven't already got an Apple ID, you can set one up from within *FaceTime*. On the first screen, just click **Create New Account** and you'll be guided through the steps to set one up. You'll then be sent an email to the address you provided to verify you own it, so click the link in the message, sign in on the website it takes you to and your account will be ready to go.

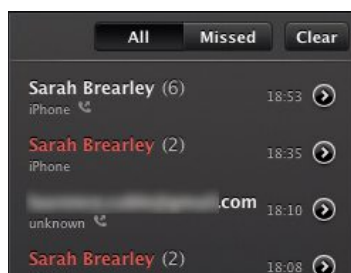
Add another account

You can use more than one email address for FaceTime. This is handy if your friends and family have several they use to contact you, or you don't want to give out your personal email to everyone. Just go to *FaceTime > Preferences* and click **Add Another Email...** Type in your other address and FaceTime will send you an email to that address to verify it. Once you've done this, others will be able to call you on FaceTime by using this address. If you later decide you no longer want to be reachable on one of these addresses, click it and then select **Remove This Email** in the Preferences.



Recents

This list will tell you all the recent *FaceTime* calls you've made and received. It also highlights in red any you've missed, and a number badge on the **Recents** button tells you how many missed calls you've had. If you click the arrow next to the timestamp, you'll see your call history to that person. You may find it useful to filter out all but the missed calls – just click **Missed** at the top.

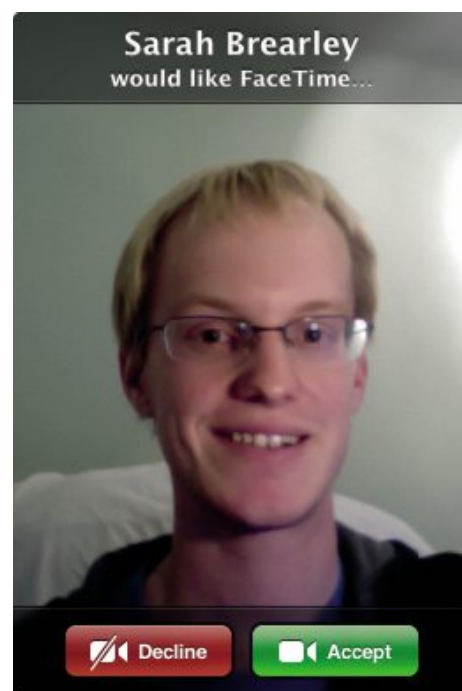


>> TIP / Make eye contact

Because the camera's above your Mac screen, chances are you won't be looking straight at it, because you're watching your friend on the display below. This can make it seem as though you're not looking at them, so try to look at their forehead. That way, you can still see their face, but it gives them a better feeling you're making eye contact.



Avoid the teleprompter look with this little tip.

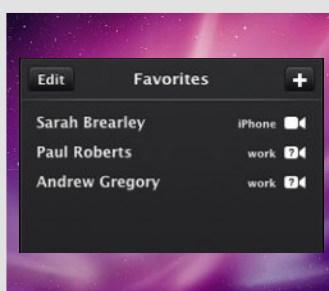


Receive a call

To receive a *FaceTime* call on your Mac, it needs to be switched on and connected to the internet, but you needn't have the *FaceTime* app running. When someone calls you, *FaceTime* will open automatically and switch on the camera, showing you your face in real time. You'll see who's calling at the top – all you need to do then is click the green **Accept** button to start the call.

Favourites

If you call someone regularly, why not add them to your **Favorites** list for quick access? You can do this by clicking **Favorites** at the bottom and then the **+** symbol in the top-right. This pops up a list of your contacts – simply click one to add them to your **Favorites** list. You can also add a contact to **Favorites** when you view your call history with them in the **Recents** list – look for the **Add to Favorites** button.



Add tabs to Finder

Use TotalFinder to enhance your Mac file-browsing experience

>>KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY:
Beginner

TIME NEEDED:
30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
TotalFinder 1.0.1 or later, Mac OS X 10.6 or later

>>ON THE DISC



Find a trial of *TotalFinder* on the disc.

There have been many attempts over the years to expand on *Finder*, which some Mac users consider too basic or just too awkward to use when many windows are involved. Cocoatech's *Path Finder* is the most famous example, offering tabs, dual-pane file-browsing and additional list-sorting options; however, *Path Finder* is essentially a standalone application, and so if you use it you'll find yourself switching between it and *Finder* proper. *TotalFinder* isn't nearly as advanced as *Path Finder*, but it takes the most important components and brings them to Apple's native *Finder* minus any extraneous interfaces.

Tabs, *TotalFinder*'s dual-pane mode and the system-wide Visor are explored in the walkthrough on the opposite page, so here we'll cover some of *TotalFinder*'s smaller

features. Most of these are easily accessible by going to *Finder* > Preferences, selecting *TotalFinder* and then clicking the **Tweaks** tab. Here, you'll see checkboxes and user-definable shortcuts for: showing otherwise invisible system files; **Folders on Top**, which places folders above files in list views; and **Always Maximise**, which makes a *Finder* window full-screen when you click the green 'zoom' button. There's also a **Freelance Windows** checkbox. When checked, this retains *Finder*'s default behaviour of opening a folder in a new window if it's ⌘-clicked; if

"There have been many attempts to expand Finder, which some Mac users consider too basic"

you don't check this, *TotalFinder* opens ⌘-clicked folders in new tabs.

The tutorial starts by assuming you've installed *TotalFinder* (which can be found on your disc) and have launched the application. On doing this, *Finder* will restart, so *TotalFinder* can integrate itself into Apple's file browser. For more information about *TotalFinder*, including any possible future developments, visit <http://totalfinder.binaryage.com>. Note that if you work through the tutorial and decide that *TotalFinder*'s not for you, click *TotalFinder*'s menu extra and select **Restart Finder** to revert to *Finder* or **Uninstall TotalFinder** to remove the application entirely.

Of course, you could always read our review of the latest version of *TotalFinder* before you install it – simply turn to page 100.

Craig Grannell

>>QUICK LOOK / TotalFinder's best features

Tabs

TotalFinder enables you to open new *Finder* windows in tabs.

View options

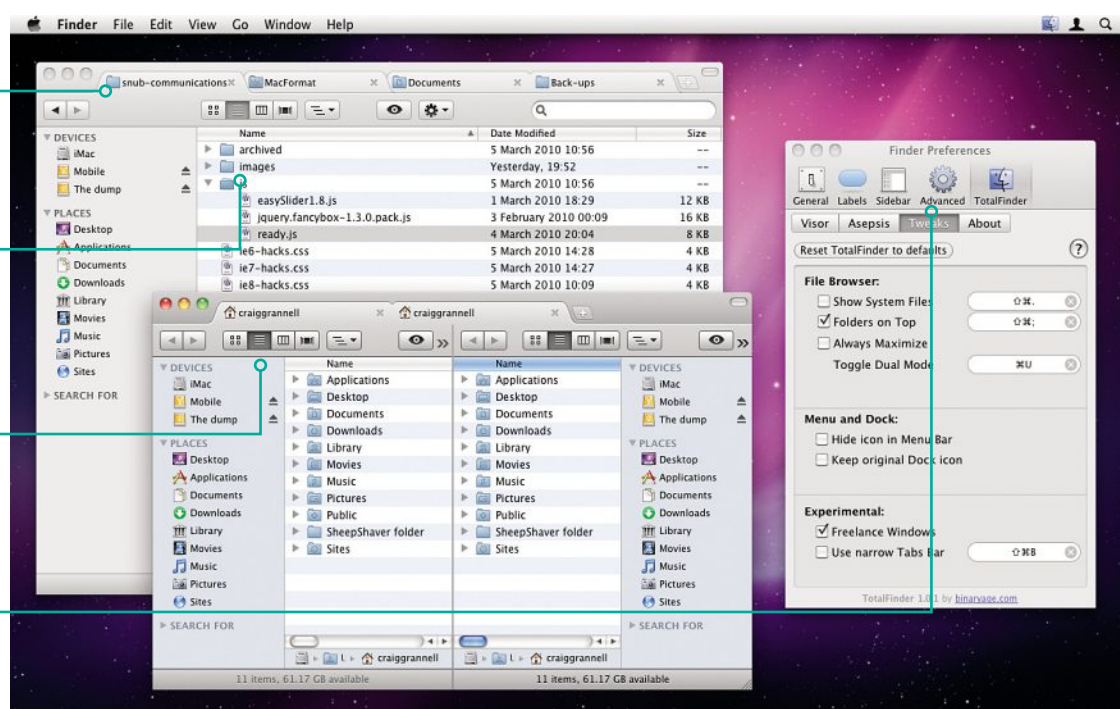
Place folders above files in list view, rather than mixing them.

Dual-pane

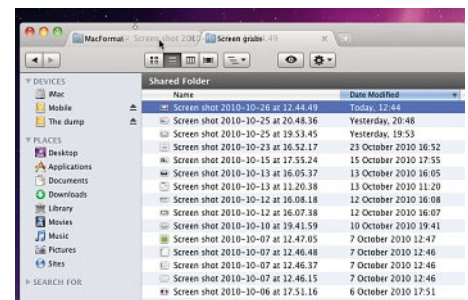
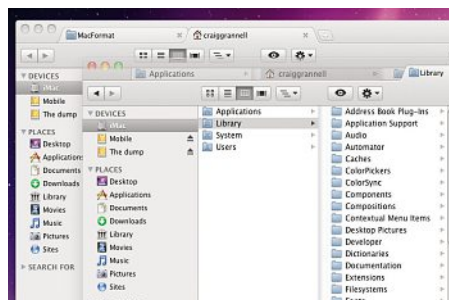
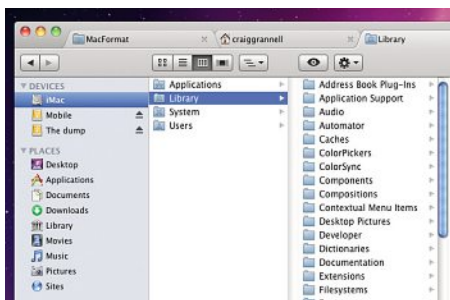
The dual-pane view enables you to 'link' two tabs for transfers.

Tweaks

TotalFinder's options are included in *Finder*'s own preferences.



>> HOW TO / Master TotalFinder

**01 Work with tabs**

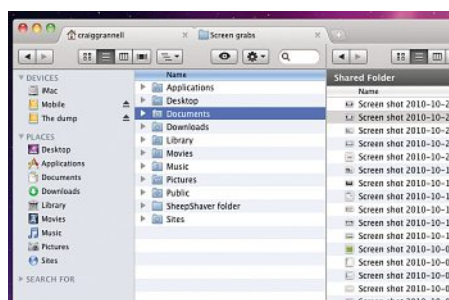
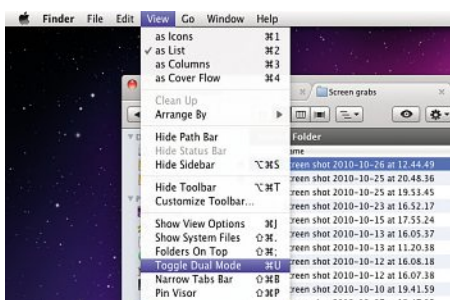
When *TotalFinder* is running, new *Finder* windows start life with a single tab, which replaces the title bar. The tabs are akin to those in *Google Chrome*, so click the + icon (or use $\text{⌘} + \text{T}$) to get a new tab, click × to close a tab, and note that each tab displays the folder's icon.

02 Manage your tabs

Tabs are managed like tabs in modern web browsers. You can click-hold and drag left or right to reposition a tab within a window, or tear one free to create a new window once you let go of the mouse button. You can also drag tabs between *Finder* windows.

03 Drag content to tabs

TotalFinder makes it simple to move content between tabs. Click-hold a file and drag it over a tab. When the arrow appears, let go of the mouse button and the file will be moved. Alternatively, pause for a second to switch to the destination tab and go further in the folder.

**04 Activate dual-pane view**

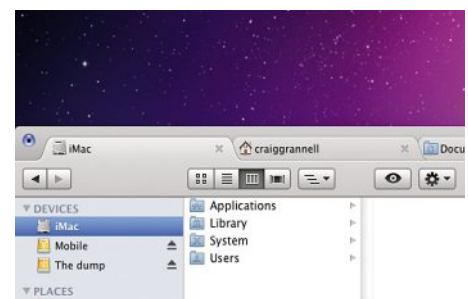
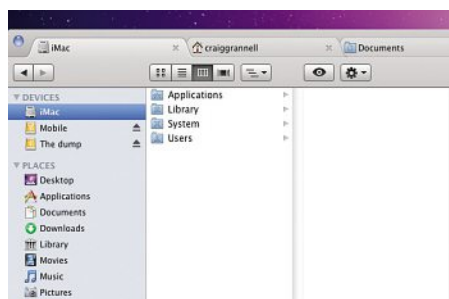
Select View > Toggle Dual Mode (or press $\text{⌘} + \text{U}$) to activate dual-pane mode. If you've only one tab open, it will be cloned; if you've more than one tab, your selected tab will join to the one to its right (if available) or to the one to its left. ($\text{⌘} + \text{U}$) also reverts.)

05 Work in dual-pane mode

When in dual mode, tabs 'link' in the tab bar and are managed as one. A dual-mode's window is split, providing a *Finder* window instance (including sidebar) on each side. Set both sides to list view to get an efficient file-management workspace akin to an FTP client.

>> QUICK TIP

Check the *TotalFinder* section in *Finder's* preferences and you'll see many options' keyboard shortcuts. To add a new one, click the relevant button and briefly hold your preferred shortcut. Ensure it doesn't clash with other *Finder* shortcuts.

**06 Activate Visor**

Go to Finder > Preferences and select the *TotalFinder* section. Click the **Visor** tab and check **The Visor Feature**. Visor is a system-wide *Finder* window that slides up from the bottom of the screen when you activate it using the shortcut ($\text{⌘} + \text{V}$ by default).

07 Work with Visor

Visor is handy for stashing regularly used folders, which can be accessed with a single keyboard shortcut from any app. When Visor is deactivated (using $\text{⌘} + \text{V}$ or esc if you check the option in the *Visor* preferences), the app you were in is automatically refocused.

08 Pin Visor

At the top-left of Visor, you'll see a non-standard blue button. This is not a close button - but, it pins Visor open when clicked (you can also use the shortcut $\text{⌘} + \text{⌘} + \text{P}$) and therefore stops Visor from automatically closing when you switch to another application. ●

Get some
Windows 7
features on
your Mac.



Bring Aero Snap to Mac

Get the best new Windows 7 features on your Mac with HyperDock

»» KEY INFO



DIFFICULTY:
Beginner



TIME NEEDED:
15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
Mac OS X 10.6, HyperDock

»» ON THE DISC



Find a trial of
HyperDock
on the disc.

Mac users like to play the superiority card when it comes to Windows, sniggering behind the backs of people 'dumb' enough to use Microsoft's operating system, perhaps going so far as to point fingers and yell something about photocopiers in Redmond.

But drink some reality juice and it's clear that Cupertino isn't the only place where innovation happens – often enough, Microsoft has some pretty good ideas of its own. The taskbar introduced with Windows 95 was one such feature, providing a centralised switcher/launcher long before the Mac OS X Dock arrived. Windows 7 also has plenty of interesting interface ideas, largely

centred around its taskbar and window management. We don't see Apple warming up its photocopier, but enterprising indie developer Christian Baumgart has taken on the task. His *HyperDock* add-on enables you to bring a bunch of Windows 7 features to the Mac, and, despite what you might think, they may well improve your productivity.

One of the best features in Windows 7 is Aero Snap, which

“Drink some reality juice and it's clear that Cupertino isn't the only place where innovation happens”

enables you to drag a window to a screen edge to resize it to full- or half-screen, without having to manually line things up. *HyperDock* includes the same feature, and it works with the majority of Mac apps.

Another feature of Windows 7 is the ability to hover over a taskbar icon to preview an app's windows. On the Mac, Dock Exposé does much the same thing, but *HyperDock's* implementation is useful if you're not enamoured with Dock Exposé, and also if you'd like a few extra features.

On the next page, we show you how to use these and other features; for more details about *HyperDock*, visit <http://hyperdock.bahoom.de> or see our review, page 100.

Craig Grannell

» HOW TO / Bring Aero Snap to Mac



01 Snap to split-screen

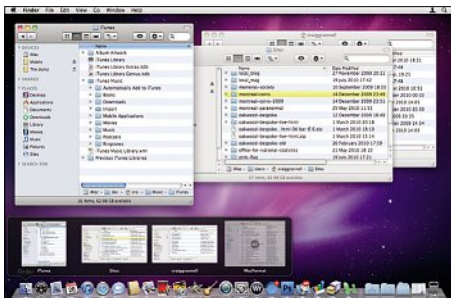
After installing *HyperDock*, launch *Safari* and open two windows. Drag one to the left screen edge; when the semi-transparent box appears, release the mouse button and the window will resize to fill the left half of the screen. Drag the other window to the right.

02 Full-screen windows

Split-screen is great for comparing two windows, but sometimes you'll have a single document you want to fill the screen. Mac OS X lacks an actual 'full-screen' button, but with *HyperDock* you can just drag a window to the top screen edge and it'll fill the entire screen.

03 Move windows easily

Open *System Preferences* and select *HyperDock*. Select the *Window Management* tab. Under *Window Dragging*, you'll see modifiers for moving and resizing windows. Move your cursor over a window, hold **ctrl** + **⌘** and then move the cursor for window control.

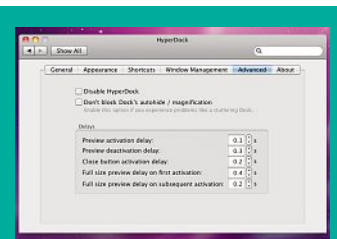


04 View Dock previews

HyperDock's Dock previews are less of a 'jolt' when activated than Dock *Exposé*. Hover the mouse cursor over a Dock icon and you'll see the app's windows. Minimised windows show a '-' symbol. Hover over a preview to view it at full size; hover over one and click 'x' to close.

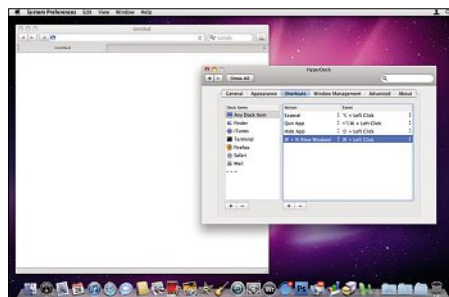
05 iCal and iTunes previews

iTunes and *iCal* by default provide information-based previews. Hold your cursor over *iCal's* icon to see upcoming events. Hold your cursor over the *iTunes* icon to see the currently playing track; hover over the artwork to access controls and clickable rating stars.



» QUICK TIP

HyperDock has preset delays for many actions. If you'd like to adjust these, go to the **Advanced** section of the preferences and amend the values in the **Delays** area. Note: window-snapping delay settings are in the **Window Snapping** section of the **Window Management** tab.



06 Preview behaviour

Back in *HyperDock's* preferences, click the **General** tab. Here, you can disable the *iCal* and *iTunes* previews and also amend preview behaviour. Next, click **Appearance**. Experiment with the settings to change the size and appearance of the preview bubbles.

07 View Dock shortcuts

Still in preferences, click **Shortcuts**. On the left, select **Any Dock Icon**. On the right are actions and events. As per the events shown, hold **⌘** and click *Safari* in the Dock. Dock *Exposé* will be invoked. Hit **esc** then hold **⌘** and click *Safari's* Dock icon - a new window opens.

08 Edit Dock shortcuts

To edit an existing Dock shortcut, click the up/down arrow icon at the right of the event, select **Other Button/Keys** and define a new shortcut. You can also use the '+' icons to add new apps to the left-hand pane or new action/event pairs to the right-hand pane. ●

Q&A

● HINTS & TIPS ● TROUBLESHOOTING ● EXPERT ADVICE ● ESSENTIAL INFO

>> MEET YOUR Q&A EXPERT

Whatever your Mac-related problem, from misbehaving MacBooks to withering Wi-Fi, Luis Villazon can help.



>> ASK LUIS A QUESTION

Got a problem with your Mac? Then why not send your queries to Luis at macformat.helpline@futurenet.com and see if he can help.

"The Terminal command no longer works!"

Q I have the same problem as Glenn Langford in *MF224*. In Mac OS X 10.6.2, *Mail* can access the incoming server but not the outgoing server (TalkTalk). This is a new machine and I'm setting *Mail* up for the first time, but I'm now satisfied I've set it up correctly.

I tried the command 'sudo/sbin/ipfw disable firewall' in *Terminal* but got the response 'No such file or directory'.

Ronald Stewart

A Disabling the firewall was a bit of a long shot for Glen's problem, but assuming that it will really help in your case, I think all you need to do is insert a space after sudo in your command line. Sudo is a sort of meta-command that elevates the privilege of the command after it, so that it runs with root authority. So you're actually just running the ipfw command, which is found in the /sbin folder, but doing so as if you were the root user. If you take the space away, sudo/sbin/ipfw gets interpreted as a single file path and *Terminal* looks for an ipfw command in the folder sudo/sbin, which of course doesn't exist.

"Which routers are compatible with Macs?"

Q I'm planning to upgrade to an iMac. I want to connect my BT Voyager 220V broadband router, either by USB or Ethernet. It says on the installation software CD,



All broadband routers will work on your Mac if you connect through Ethernet or Wi-Fi.

'Compatible with Windows, ME, XP Vista, and Apple Macintosh'. Now that it's been shortened to Mac, will it make all that much difference, compatibility-wise? Will my iMac still recognise and accept the router connection?

Andrew D Murr

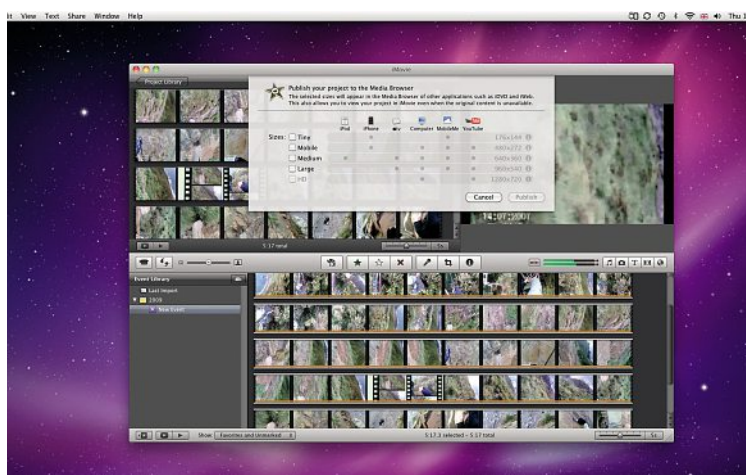
A 'Apple Macintosh' and 'Mac' are synonymous. Furthermore, provided you connect to your router/modem using an Ethernet cable or a wireless link, there isn't really any such thing as compatible or incompatible with Mac computers. Broadband modems that connect via USB need driver support at the computer end so that the USB port can be recognised as a network connection (USB was never originally designed for this). But when you connect via Ethernet or Wi-Fi, your Mac doesn't really need to know anything about which modem

you have or how it connects to the internet. The modem/router is a self-sufficient unit that just passes network packets back and forth to your Mac. And nowadays, all the configuration of the router is done through your browser on a special web page that the router serves at its local IP address. Usually this is <http://192.168.something.something> (it's 192.168.1.254 for BT Home Hub routers, for example).

"How do I share a completed iMovie project via DVD?"

Q I have assembled a movie in iMovie's Project Library (at least I think so). I want to put it on a DVD - but 'DVD' under the Share column remains resolutely greyed out. Can you help?

Tom Hunter



A I have tried and failed to duplicate this but I've come across just enough reports of it happening for other people, to rule out all the obvious user-error causes and conclude that this may be a subtle bug – possibly confined to *iLife '08*. One workaround, which is worth trying, and which is a good idea to do with your projects anyway, is to share to the **Media Browser** first. You can then open *iDVD* and import the film from the **Media Browser**, instead of directly sharing it to *iDVD*. And the other advantage of sharing it to the **Media Browser** is that you can delete the original movie clips, without losing the finished film in *iMovie* – handy if you are running low on disk space.

“I’m getting Moiré interference when in iMovie!”

Q I live on Ascension Island in the South Atlantic and feel a bit out on a limb when it comes to solving the odd Mac problem. I have a 3.06GHz Core 2 Duo iMac, running *iMovie '09*. When I download my HD videos onto DVDs after processing them on *iMovie* the image develops what can only be described as the Moiré effect and the overall quality is noticeably lower. I shoot HD imagery (on land and underwater) on both a Canon 5D Mk2 and also a Sony HDR-XR155, and download at the original high quality.

It's even more evident when played back on a large TV screen. The originals, which I keep on the hard disk, are perfect and play back just as they did on day one. I've

Sharing your movie to the Media Browser uses H.264 compression. This might actually improve the quality.

tried the higher-quality branded discs but no change there either.

Mal Moss

A The problem is caused by the way *iMovie* converts the screen resolutions. An HD video source with a resolution of 1280x720 is much too large for ordinary DVD formats (which use 720x576 or 1024x576 for widescreen). When you share to *iDVD*, *iMovie* downscales the frames to fit, but the algorithm it uses doesn't render subpixels terribly well and the result is some nasty fringing and banding of colours. It's even worse with a slideshow that uses still shots imported from *iPhoto*, because these are normally even higher resolution – maybe as high as 3000x2000 pixels – and have to be scaled down further.

And here we see a third advantage of exporting your movie using **Share > Media Browser**, rather than **Share > iDVD**. When you share to *iDVD* from *iMovie*, your film is exported using the Apple Intermediate Codec (AIC), rather than H.264. AIC is an uncompressed format designed to enable video to be moved between applications without decompressing and recompressing all the time. You might think this would give better results than using H.264; I certainly did. But my tests indicate it's the other way around. It's possible this is because *iMovie* does a better job of downscaling the resolution than *iDVD*, but I'm not sure. Whatever, sharing to **Media Browser** at 1280x720 and then importing this to *iDVD* seems to produce the fewest artefacts.

Lighting a wire fire

Bill Gallop



When Apple removed the FireWire port from the MacBook in late 2009, there was much wailing and gnashing of teeth in certain quarters. Why should you worry though – surely USB 2.0 is better than the FireWire 400 port that the MacBook lost? On paper the 400Mbps of FireWire 400 does indeed look slower than the 480Mbps of USB 2.0, but the raw numbers can be deceiving. Speed isn't the only thing that differentiates FireWire and USB.

First, the numbers: the speeds quoted express the raw speed that the cable is capable of, but there are a number of other factors that affect how fast you can actually transfer a file over each type of interface. With FireWire, all the low-level processing is done by the FireWire interface itself, whereas with USB all that work has to be done by the computer's processor. So USB is more taxing on the host computer than FireWire is and the reverse is also true, so that if the computer is tied up it will be more likely to affect USB than FireWire. Real-world tests show that file copies between a host computer and a FireWire 400 disk will be a good bit faster than transferring the same files to a USB 2.0 disk.

“The 400Mbps of FireWire 400 does indeed look slower than the 480Mbps of USB 2.0, but raw numbers can be deceiving”

Next: topology, or how things connect together. For USB, you have to connect each drive to the computer, although you can go through a USB hub if you don't have enough ports. FireWire supports daisy-chaining, where you can connect devices together in a chain with only one of them needing to be connected to the computer. For this reason, while FireWire hubs do exist, they're very rare. It used to be the case that having multiple drives on a single bus didn't cause an issue, since until fairly recently a single hard drive wasn't capable of saturating either bus. But now it's quite common for a drive to have a drive-to-host transfer rate of over 800Mbps.

The very fact that FireWire doesn't depend on the CPU for transfers is what makes it well suited for use in digital video. That's why you'll see FireWire on mini-DV or HDV camcorders rather than USB. When you capture video from a mini-DV camcorder, the camera plays the video out of its FireWire port and the computer then captures that stream of video. Inconsistencies in the flow of data lead to dropped frames; fortunately, FireWire has you covered.

Bill is Mac Solutions Consultant for Equanet (www.equanet.co.uk). Each month he will share his knowledge with you, from upgrading your operating system to the advantages of RAW files.

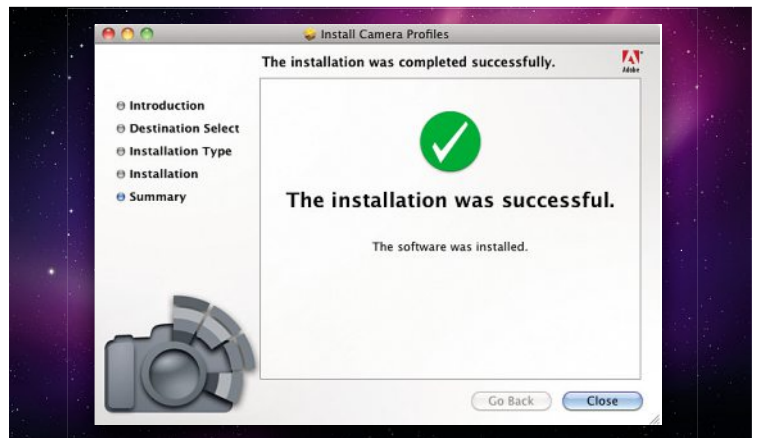
>> QUICK TIP

If you're tired of the 'glass' 3D Dock effect, switch to 2D via *Terminal* by typing **defaults write com.apple.dock no-glass -boolean YES; killall Dock**.

Apple's new iMac is a lovely looking Mac, but it's just not made to be upgraded by the end user.

"Reinstalling OS X failed and my Mac keeps crashing!"

Q My 800MHz G4 iMac was running OS X 10.2.8, but wasn't functioning properly, so I backed up the files I wanted and ran my original Install Disc 1. It worked, and the first disc ran fine, but the second one failed. So I force-restarted my Mac to do the same again, but I made sure the Mac didn't go into Sleep Mode. After the second go at Disc 2 it installed, but my Mac will only run Jaguar in Safe Mode! I have tried everything on the Apple support pages but it won't install any available updates. Worst of all, my



Updating your RAW image support isn't as daunting as it looks.

Mac crashes every time I press **[C]** at startup and won't run the disc, so I can't do a clean install.

Matthew Stratford

have to take it to an Apple-friendly repair shop, but either way I think a replacement DVD drive is the most promising avenue to explore.



A Safe Mode disables a lot of drivers and startup items - including those for the DVD drive. If your iMac starts in Safe Mode but not in regular mode and won't boot from a DVD, our prime suspect is the DVD drive itself. Couple this with the problems you had reinstalling OS X from disc and the evidence for a faulty drive starts to stack up. G4 iMacs don't exactly encourage user maintenance, with their hemispherical bodies, but you can get inside them with a little patience and the right torx bit for your screwdriver. Try disconnecting the DVD drive completely and see if the iMac will boot in normal mode. If you don't feel comfortable doing this, you'll

"How can I import raw files into Photoshop?"

Q I am an amateur photographer and since I purchased *Elements 6* it has been fine. Recently though, it has refused to process raw files. I tried to update *Elements* but it says 'Unable to locate the product to be updated'. Adobe has not responded, even though I have a case number. Its website says I need a patch and at this point I could not understand the instructions. I have just bought the latest issue of *MacFormat* and I see

>> MACFIXIT TIPS / Recovered Files folder appearing in the Trash

There may be times when you start up your system that the Trash will have a folder called **Recovered Files** in it, and it may contain a number of oddly named files that might contain garbled data or could be OKB in size. The **Recovered Files** folder contains temporary files that were used by applications and system processes, which were not properly released and discarded when the application was terminated. This can happen if a program unexpectedly quits, or more commonly if the system

crashes in the middle of work. The next time the system boots after a crash, it will gather these temporary files and save them in the **Recovered Files** folder instead of immediately deleting them. This provides you with the opportunity to recover data in the rare case that something vital may have been stored in one of these files, though for most home and office applications these files will likely not contain any recognisable information.

If the folder keeps appearing in the Trash when you restart your

system, it's likely applications are quitting unexpectedly when they are being closed for shutdown. While the culprits could be any system process, it's more likely they are menu extras, system monitors, antivirus scanners, and other third-party utilities you may have installed. Sometimes this can happen after a system upgrade or other system configuration change, if the utility in question is not fully compatible with the changes.

You can troubleshoot this problem by first running a

General Maintenance routine (<http://bit.ly/9i6Fqw>) on the system to clear caches and ensure system components are properly accessible. Then try manually quitting or disabling as many of the running utilities in your system as possible before restarting. Finally, be sure to fully update the utilities you have installed, to ensure compatibility.



on page 77 Mr Bill Gallop saying that next month he is going to tell us about getting the operating system to upgrade for the advantage of raw files.

Clive Kirby

A That's not a specific teaser for next month's column, that's Bill's tag line for all his columns. Also, 'upgrading the operating system' and 'the advantages of raw files' are two separate items. Nevertheless, I'm pretty sure we can get to the bottom of this. Start by checking which version of the *Adobe Camera Raw* plug-in is required for your particular camera. There's a list at <http://kb2.adobe.com/cps/407/kb407111.html>. *Photoshop Elements 6* only supports plug-in versions up to 5.5, so if your camera requires anything above that, you will need to upgrade *Photoshop Elements* to version 8. If it requires something less, download v5.5 of the plug-in from www.adobe.com/support/downloads/detail.jsp?ftpID=4581. This will download a DMG file, which you should double-click to mount.

There are lots of complicated-sounding instructions on Adobe's download page, but the current raw driver has an installer that does all the heavy lifting for you. It will put the new drivers in */Library/Application Support/Adobe/Camera Raw*. All you should have to do after that is run *Adobe Bridge* (it will be in your Applications folder) and click Tools > Cache > Purge Central Cache. And truth be told, that's more of a precaution than a necessity.

"The best word processor for a G4 iBook?"

Q After reading the article 'Buying an older Mac' in the August issue (MF224), I purchased a G4 iBook. I already have a year-old iMac desktop. I do playwriting and scriptwriting, and wanted the iBook so that I can work elsewhere around the house, save my work to a memory stick and reload it into the iMac for further writing, printing and so on.

I'm using a programme called *Celtx*, which is easily downloaded to both machines. However, I also

MACFIXIT TIPS / Security concerns with FaceTime

The new *FaceTime* application for OS X that enables video-conferencing with iOS devices has come with a couple of security concerns involving the way account information is handled by the new program. When the app is run and you've logged in to your account, the program will show information about you in a window next to the video display. This will make it easier to change account information for that user, since it shows birth-date information as well as the security question and answer needed to change the account information. All this can be shown without requiring a second password.

FaceTime will show Apple ID account recovery information with a few clicks, and no prompt

for a password. With this information, a thief can go to the Apple accounts web page and reset passwords, change the associated email addresses, or get more data about you.

Technically, since the account information can be seen by not providing a password or other authentication method first, any person can sit down at your computer and launch *FaceTime* to get your information; however, it does require physical access to the system, and if that happens then Apple account ID security may not be the greatest of concerns.

With physical access to any system, people may be able to recover numerous passwords and information, and get sensitive documents, pictures,

and other personal information. However, this usually will take some time, and *FaceTime* brings some important user data to the surface, quickly enabling someone to launch the program and get your information if you leave your computer in a public place for a few minutes.

This is a concern, but should not be a major one, especially if you invoke other security measures, such as screensaver passwords or locking your screen when you leave it. Still, you might consider avoiding the current public beta of the app until Apple addresses this issue.



need a conventional word processor and whereas my iMac came pre-installed with *iWorks*, which includes *Pages*, I'm having difficulty arranging to have *Pages* installed on the iBook. It was not pre-installed and I don't know how to acquire it in a form that will run on the older G4.

Are there any typewriter-style word processors that I can use on Macs? I've yet to find a program that suited me as much as the old *Tasword*, which ran under DOS. Thanks for your help.

Austin Hawkins

A *Pages* is probably a bit much, if you're used to DOS word processors and you just want to bash in text. It's aimed more at people who want to make pretty letters, brochures, menus and so on. *Open Office* (www.openoffice.org) is the starting point for Mac word processing these days. Since it's free and well supported, you should only really go anywhere else if you have more specialist needs. I actually really like Google Docs on my own notebooks, though. Because it's an online application, you need to be connected to the internet for it to work, but it saves you the hassle of synchronising

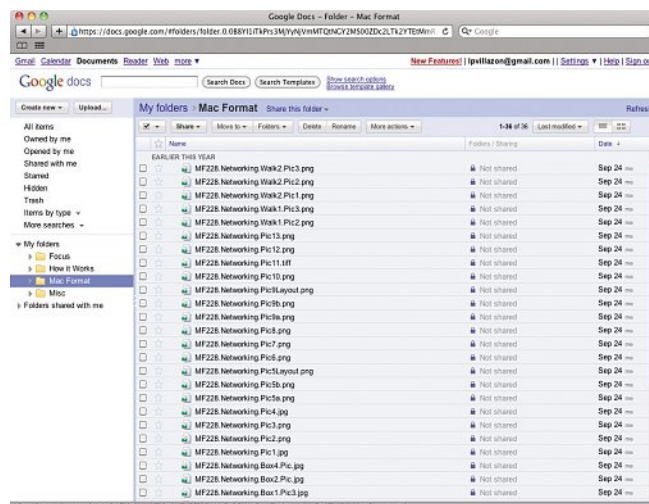
different versions of the same document – indispensable if you work on several computers during the day. *SimpleNote* is an iPad app that works in much the same way and has a web interface for access from regular Macs as well. But it's not really a proper word processor and doesn't have any formatting options.

Another option might be *Scrivener* – check out this issue's review on page 99. It packs a wealth of options for writers of all kinds, but don't let its apparent complexity put you off – the level of depth at which you can choose to use it remains one of its plus points.

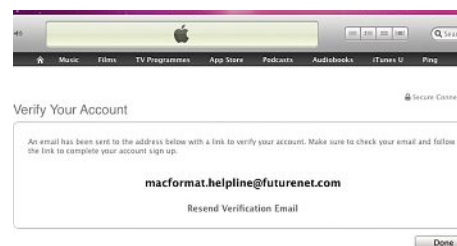
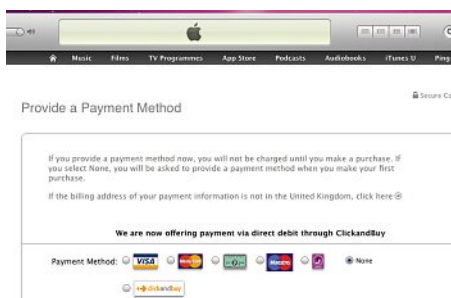
QUICK TIP

Instead of just emailing a link to a web page, you can send a copy of the page itself, including images, from *Safari* using File > Mail Contents of This Page, or + .

Google Docs is a great way to access a document from lots of different computers.



» HOW TO / Create an iTunes account without a credit card



01 New account

Children need their own *iTunes* account to be able to download free apps, but you probably don't want them to have one that's linked to your credit card. You can get round this with an iTunes gift voucher, but there's an even cheaper way...

02 No payment

Connect to the iTunes Store and sign out of your account. Choose a free app and click to download it. Create a new account and fill in the user name and contact details as usual. When you get to the payment options screen, be sure to select **None**.

03 Relax

The account will activate correctly and can be used to download free content. As soon as you try to actually buy anything though, you'll be prompted for a credit card or a gift voucher code. No more nasty shocks when the credit card bill arrives! ●

» QUICK TIP

To replace the login screen background, call an image 'background.jpg' and then type **sudo cp background.jpg / System/Library/CoreServices/DefaultDesktop.jpg** into *Terminal*.

"What if I don't have FireWire on my MacBook?"

Q I read the Q&A in your October 2010 issue of *MacFormat* (MF226) regarding the issue with connecting a camera via FireWire to a MacBook.

I had the very same problem. I bought a MacBook in early 2009 and then found I couldn't connect my Sony HC30 camcorder. After almost four months of frustration,

I took my camera and MacBook into the Apple Store and demonstrated the problem to a 'Genius'. He said, "Bring your MacBook back, together with all the packaging and we'll exchange it for a MacBook with a FireWire port". I returned next day, still sceptical of what the guy said, but sure enough, as promised, they swapped my MacBook for a brand new MacBook Pro, complete with FireWire port and all the latest features. They even moved all my

data across there and then.

To say I was speechless is an understatement. I am now happily using my camera with the MacBook, which is why I bought one in the first place. How could I possibly complain about Apple customer service?

Henry Allcock

A I imagine they charged you the difference in price between the two models at the very least? But even so, that is a super-useful tip for anyone with a newish MacBook that they want to upgrade. Be sure not to abuse it though – or Apple will likely change its policy.

» MACFIXIT TIPS / Apps break after reinstalling OS X

Sometimes a reinstall of the operating system is the easiest way to tackle multiple or non-superficial problems with computers, since doing this will refresh the underlying operating system software and hopefully clear any corruption.

Apple has progressively made the process of reinstalling easier, to the point where now it is practically seamless to pop in the Snow Leopard installation DVD and run a reinstall, then perform an auto-update and be right back where you were – maybe. In some

instances, after performing reinstallations people may find certain apps not working.

Usually, apps that are broken are complex ones that have installed resources throughout the operating system, especially in hidden system directories. Such applications are usually large productivity suites, such as Adobe's *Creative Suite*, Microsoft *Office*, and technical apps for science and engineering like *Matlab* and *LabView* (these are just examples, and plenty fit into this category). If you need to reinstall your operating system,

be sure to know what apps you use regularly and have an easy route to reinstalling and reconfiguring them. Sometimes fixing problems with them is as easy as setting file paths, but other times you may need to reinstall shared libraries and resources, even for some fonts.

Tips supplied by MacFixit.com

MacFixit, founded in 1996 by Ted Landau, has grown into the premiere destination for users seeking resolutions to bugs and conflicts. Visit www.macfixit.com for the latest Mac information.



"Everything works, but should I be upgrading?"

Q I'm writing to ask for your technical opinion, though an additional personal view would be appreciated. My current Mac is a G5 Dual 1.8GHz machine with internal memory maximised. I also have a 320GB backup unit. All is working well, but should I upgrade to a Mac Pro? Is it better to update now, or leave it until later?

While I'm home-based and not employed, I write a newsletter and have heavy usage when it comes to photography (I'm currently



You need to be a very high-end user indeed to use the extra power the Mac Pro offers.

working on transferring 8,000 slides to digital), accountancy, plus many other uses. I'm also a little behind on software (no Snow Leopard, no iLife).

Rod Brown

A Okay, technical opinion first: there's nothing that you mention in your letter that requires you to get a new Mac. Specifically, the two areas that place the heaviest strain on the hardware – video editing and 3D games – don't appear on your list. Of course, there will always be a new computer out there to tempt you, but the longer you leave your upgrade, the better the Mac you will get for the same money compared to your current setup. Your G5 has already reached the shallow point in the depreciation curve and whether you sell it in a year or two years, won't make very much difference to the price it commands on the second-hand market.

However! My personal view is that you are actually asking me for permission to upgrade. Surprisingly,

I get asked this question quite a lot, with varying degrees of artifice and preamble. And my answer, whoever is asking, is always an enthusiastic 'yes'. If you're asking the question, you have already decided that you want a new Mac and can afford a new Mac. All you really need to know is whether you deserve a new Mac. Well, of course you do. If not you, then who? It's quite clear to me that a new Mac will make you happier (for at least a time) and I have never heard of anyone who lay on their deathbed and regretted the money they spent on things that made them happy.

I do think you should take another look at the iMac range though. A top-of-the-line iMac will cost a lot less than a Mac Pro without compromising in any area that will affect you. Saying that, if you suspect you're turning into a stickler for the latest and greatest components and performance, then the Mac Pro remains the most customisable machine in the Mac range, so there's plenty of scope for bolting on further hardware. ●

On the forum

Help and advice from readers



Q Hi there. I would like to be able to import my favourite YouTube clips into iTunes to then use on my MacBook and iPhone. If this is possible, please can someone guide me through the process? I've tried to download YouTube video before without success. Many thanks, Graham.

mcf_GJH0702 Join Date: Nov 2009 Posts: 29

A Hi Graham. Yes, of course it is possible. Go on YouTube and then click on the clip you want. When it's loaded, pause the video and then type pwn in front of the YouTube bit of the URL address. For example, say you clicked to view this YouTube video (chosen at random):

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-94JhLEiNO

You would then pause the video and simply enter pwn in front of the YouTube bit, like so:

www.pwnyoutube.com/watch?v=4-94JhLEiNO

Hit  and simply follow the instructions.

mcf_Costas Join Date: Jun 2007 Location: London Posts: 1,789

A You could always try the *Perian* add-on at <http://perian.org>. I find it works quite well at snaffling YouTube videos for download onto the Mac.

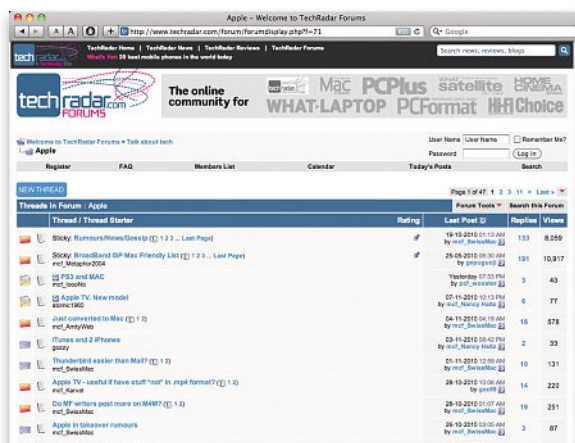
mcf_stuartgoble Join Date: Jul 2007 Location: Taunton, UK Posts: 153

Q My dock no longer shows a dot for a prog that is loaded, and, worse, on right-click, always offers "Open" – even when it is! All computers were updated to 10.6.5 yesterday but only the iMac is behaving oddly today. Any ideas how to get back normal behaviour please?

mcf_Flick Join Date: Nov 2009 Location: Northumberland Posts: 12

A Delete the Dock preferences and either re-start the Mac or log out then log back in again. The Dock preference file can be found at ~/Library/Preferences/com.apple.dock.plist. If you see a com.apple.dock.db file in the same path, delete that also. Your Dock will now revert to its default settings.

mcf_Costas Join Date: Jun 2007 Location: London Posts: 1,819



Join our forum and join in the fun at
<http://forum.macformat.co.uk>

LOOKING FOR A SMARTPHONE?

100+ mobiles reviewed in the UK's most comprehensive mobile buying guide

The image shows the cover of the 'tech radar PHONE BUYING GUIDE' magazine. The cover is white with blue and red accents. At the top, it says 'tech radar' in a blue box. Below that, 'PHONE' is written in large, bold, blue letters. Underneath 'PHONE', it says 'BUYING GUIDE' in a red box. To the right of 'PHONE', it says 'HANDS ON WITH HTC'S Desire HD' and 'Read our early verdict inside!'. Below 'PHONE', it says 'HELPING YOU GET THE RIGHT SMARTPHONE'. The main headline is 'THE UK'S TOP 100 PHONES' in large, bold, black letters. Below this, it says 'Our definitive verdict on every new smartphone'. To the right of the main headline, it says '70 BEST APPS' and 'Android, iPhone and Windows Phone 7 apps you need to download'. Below the main headline, it says '132 pages of expert advice'. At the bottom, there are three 'IN DEPTH REVIEW' sections: 'Nokia N8: our verdict', 'iPhone 4: still the best?', and 'Blackberry Torch on trial'. At the very bottom, it says 'PLUS iPad vs Galaxy Tab, HTC Wildfire, HTC Desire, HTC HD7, Samsung Omnia 7, HTC 7 Mozart, HTC Desire Z and more'. The cover also features several images of smartphones, including an HTC Desire HD, an iPhone 4, a Nokia N8, and a Blackberry Torch. Social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube are also present.

tech radar
PHONE
BUYING GUIDE
HANDS ON WITH HTC'S Desire HD
Read our early verdict inside!
HELPING YOU GET THE RIGHT SMARTPHONE
THE UK'S TOP 100 PHONES
Our definitive verdict on every new smartphone
132 pages of expert advice
70 BEST APPS
Android, iPhone and Windows Phone 7 apps you need to download
IN DEPTH REVIEW
Nokia N8: our verdict
Nokia's newest fully featured smartphone
IN DEPTH REVIEW
iPhone 4: still the best?
Find out inside if your next phone is Apple or Android
IN DEPTH REVIEW
Blackberry Torch on trial
RIM's latest handset reviewed and rated
PLUS iPad vs Galaxy Tab, HTC Wildfire, HTC Desire, HTC HD7, Samsung Omnia 7, HTC 7 Mozart, HTC Desire Z and more
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Future MEDIA WITH PASSION
9 772045 328005

On sale now!

"Innovative use of flash storage, incredible battery life and a brilliant balance of power and portability"

NEW AIRS SET TO IMPRESS **P86**

REVIEWS

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Reviews

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Ian Osborne
Reviews Editor

Apple's long-awaited *iLife '11* creativity suite is covered this month, but only three of the five apps in the pack have been updated. *iPhoto '11* offers new full-screen modes, Facebook enhancements, emailing photos and an expanded range of printed products to order online.

iMovie '11 gives us movie trailers, audio editing features, one-step effects and new themes, while *GarageBand* enjoys Flex Time, Groove Matching, play analysis, and more amp and stomp box effects. There's nothing new, though, for *iWeb* or

iDVD. So can you justify the upgrade? Find out on page 94 - but if you have a PowerPC-based Mac, the question is moot. This new generation of *iLife* apps is Intel-only. It's a pity, but as PowerPC Macs were discontinued in 2006, it's probably time to let go. In fact, Apple should be congratulated for supporting its older architecture for so long.

Also this month, we take a look at the release of the new MacBook Air (page 86), where exciting new technologies developed for the iPad have made it into Apple's ultra-thin notebook.

>> OUR LOGOS



A product that receives the MacFormat Choice award is the best in its class when reviewed.



Used in our Group Tests, MacFormat Winner indicates the product that we feel stands out.



This logo indicates there are either test versions or files associated with the review on the disc.

RATINGS EXPLAINED: ★★★★★ Excellent ★★★★★★ Very good ★★★★★★ Good ★★★★★★ Adequate ★★★★★★ Poor

>> APPLE NOTEBOOKS

MacBook Air 11-inch (128GB) & 13-inch (256GB)



£999, £1,349 Boasting technology inspired by the iPad, has the MacBook Air finally come of age?

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Apple
www.apple.com/uk

SPECIFICATIONS

11-inch MacBook Air

Processor: 1.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
RAM: 2GB **Storage:** 128GB flash
Ports: 2x USB, Mini DisplayPort
Display: 11.6-inch 1366x768 LED
backlit **Video:** NVIDIA GeForce 320M
Dimensions: 0.3-1.7x29.95x19.2cm
Weight: 1.06kg

13-inch MacBook Air

Processor: 1.86GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
RAM: 2GB **Storage:** 256GB flash
Ports: 2x USB, Mini DisplayPort, SD
card reader **Display:** 13.3-inch
1440x900 LED backlit **Video:**
NVIDIA GeForce 320M **Dimensions:**
0.3-1.7x32.5x22.7cm **Weight:** 1.32kg

PROS & CONS

11-inch MacBook Air

- ⊕ Beautifully portable size
- ⊕ More powerful than you think
- ⊖ No optical drive
- ⊖ Small storage and screen

13-inch MacBook Air

- ⊕ Larger screen size
- ⊕ Includes SD card reader
- ⊖ No optical drive
- ⊖ No backlit keyboard

VERDICT

11-inch MacBook Air

★★★★★

"This tiny MacBook Air is truly the ultimate ultra-portable computer."

13-inch MacBook Air

★★★★★

"Excellent innovations. It's truly an object of desire, but an expensive one."

To date, the MacBook Air has been the novelty item of the Mac notebook range.

However gorgeous it looked and however impressive its technical achievements, you might have wanted one, but you didn't need one – better get that MacBook Pro instead. The late 2010 release doesn't exactly turn this on its head, but solid-state storage throughout the range, an interesting new form factor and other improvements give us a notebook that's better able to find its niche.

The new MacBook Air uses flash storage, but instead of encasing the chips in a 2.5-inch SATA enclosure, they're mounted on a card resembling a RAM stick. It uses an mSATA connection, and without the drive casing, is around 90% smaller. The saved space has been put to good use. Enhanced battery capacity gives the 11-inch model up to five hours from a single charge, and seven hours for the 13-inch version. Better still, after an hour in Sleep Mode, the Air goes into Standby Mode, an ultra-low-powered state that can last for up to

30 days before it drains the battery. Yet as soon as you open the lid again, it's instant-on. This is a fantastic feature perfect for when you use your notebook in short bursts instead of long periods, especially if you're working away from your desk or are on holiday.

On paper, the new MacBook Airs look underpowered. Their Core 2 Duo processors, running at 1.4 and 1.86GHz, are actually less powerful than the previous generation's off-

In our processor benchmarking tests, the Airs held their own against last year's 2.13GHz release and gave it a good kicking in the gaming and video encoding stakes, thanks to the speedy flash storage. It's amazing just how quick and snappy these MacBook Airs are in day-to-day use. Boot time was just 14 seconds, for example.

As you'd expect from a Mac notebook, the screen is a beautiful LED-backlit high-resolution display, with crystal-clear image reproduction

"The new MacBook Air uses flash storage, but instead of encasing the chips in a 2.5-inch SATA enclosure, they're mounted on a card"

the-shelf clock speeds of 1.86 and 2.13GHz, and they only have 2GB of SDRAM. But don't underestimate what they can do. Their solid-state storage is twice as fast as hard disk drives, and their integrated NVIDIA GeForce 320M graphics chipset is the most powerful currently available. They're quite capable of playing moderately demanding gaming titles, and can handle HD movies with ease.

and great viewing angles. The 11-inch model's screen resolution of 1,366-by-768 pixels is higher than that found on a typical 13-inch laptop, and the larger Air's 1440x900 screen is around the same as you usually get on 15-inch notebooks. The unibody production process has been brought to the display housing too, which is now milled from a single piece of aluminium, just like the main body of



Side-by-side, you can see how much more screen space the 13-inch MacBook Air has over its smaller brother.

>> QUICK LOOK / The MacBook Air's new form factor explained

FaceTime camera

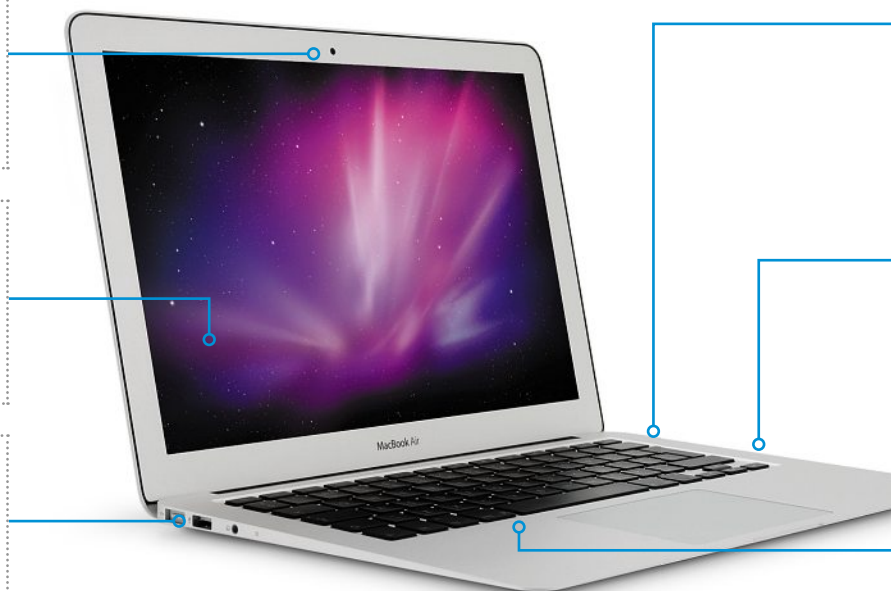
With FaceTime now available on the Mac, the iSight camera has been renamed. Also, low-light performance is improved.

Unified display

The lid section of the new MacBook Air has been constructed using the same unibody process as the bottom enclosure.

Two USB ports

Both the 11-inch and the 13-inch models now offer two USB ports, one on each side of the notebook.

**SD card reader**

The 13-inch MacBook Airs have an SD card reader, but the 11-inch models do not.

Stereo speakers

The MacBook Air now comes fitted with stereo speakers for improved audio quality.

No backlit keyboard

Unfortunately, the keyboard is no longer backlit, which was useful in low-light conditions.

the notebook. This unified display (as Apple calls it) uses 48% fewer parts, for a thinner yet stronger screen.

Ports in sight

Several new features debut with the late 2010 release. There are now two USB 2.0 ports, one on each side of the MacBook Air. This is, of course, great news. One was never enough. With the ports on opposite ends of the notebook, it might be difficult to use a Y-shaped USB lead that uses a second port to boost the supplied power. Yet this minor disadvantage is more than offset by not having bulky USB devices block access to the free port. There's no FireWire port, and naturally there's no optical drive, but you can invest in an external USB unit if you wish. In another innovative move, the system apps and OS are supplied on a read-only USB flash stick, so you can reinstall without using a DVD drive at all.

The Air now has stereo speakers for much-improved audio, and the 13-inch model has a built-in SD card reader. With FaceTime migrating from iOS to Mac OS, the iSight is now called the FaceTime camera, though apart from improved low-light performance, it's basically the same as before.

Some might bemoan the lack of in-built 3G internet access, though

you can get online using the Air's Wi-Fi 'n' or a 3G USB dongle. Adobe Flash isn't preinstalled, but then there's nothing to stop you from downloading it, but it does hammer battery life. Far more irritating is the

removed, but we hope it returns for the next MacBook Air release.

The new MacBook Air's innovative use of flash storage, incredible battery life, and brilliantly conceived balance of power and portability

"The system apps and OS are supplied on a read-only USB flash stick, so you can reinstall without using a DVD drive at all"

lack of a backlit keyboard for low-light conditions. This feature has proved incredibly popular in the past, but now it's back to tilting the screen forwards to light up your typing. Space considerations may have dictated that this useful feature be

could set the path ultra-portable notebooks will follow for years to come, and with the entry-level model costing £849 (the same as a white MacBook), it's finally become a viable alternative to a MacBook.

Ian Osborne

>> BENCHMARKS / How do the new MacBook Airs stack up?

Air 13-inch 1.86GHz C2D, 256GB, late 2010
Air 11-inch 1.4GHz C2D, 128GB, late 2010
Air 2.13GHz C2D, mid-2009

**Cinebench (CBs)**

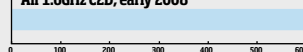
Measuring CPU and GPU performance, Cinebench reports its results as a single figure. Multi-core performance quoted. Higher is better.

Air 13-inch 1.86GHz C2D, 256GB, late 2010
Air 11-inch 1.4GHz C2D, 128GB, late 2010
Air 2.13 GHz C2D, mid-2009

**Doom 3 frame rates (FPS)**

Tested using *Doom 3*'s 'timedemo 1' routine, set at 1,024x768 with settings at Ultra. Frames per second quoted. Higher is better.

Air 13-inch 1.86GHz C2D, 256GB, late 2010
Air 11-inch 1.4GHz C2D, 128GB, late 2010
Air 1.6GHz C2D, early 2008

**Movie encoding (seconds)**

We test how long it takes to encode a five-minute test video to iPod format using QuickTime Pro. In this test a lower score is better.

>> MONITOR

Apple Cinema Display 27-inch

£899 Introducing Apple's latest monitor; but does it work hard enough to justify its price tag?

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Apple
www.apple.com/uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Screen size: 27-inch **Max resolution:** 2560x1440 pixels
Panel type: LED-backlit TFT LCD with IPS **Response time:** 12ms
Inputs: 1 USB 2.0, Mini DisplayPort
Outputs: 3 USB 2.0 ports, MagSafe connector to charge MacBooks

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Bright and sharp
- ⊕ Single cable to Mac
- ⊕ Good speakers
- ⊖ Very pricey
- ⊖ Colour consistency not the best
- ⊖ Height not adjustable

VERDICT

★★★★★

"The picture's sharp and the colours are bright and vivid. But just look at that price tag..."

Apple kit's never cheap, and this monitor, stunning though the image is, does little to break that notion. At £899 before January's VAT rise, this costs more than an 11-inch MacBook Air, although you do get a heck of a lot more screen space.

The panel packs in 2560x1440 pixels, which is more than most 27-inch monitors. You can comfortably fit two *Safari* windows alongside one another, or even a narrow Twitter client, such as *Tweetie*, *Mail* or a web page. The display has in-plane switching (IPS) as well, so colours remain bright and vivid even at tight viewing angles.

The picture is bright and pin-sharp – text looks fantastic and you can see every detail in a photo. Gradients display well too and there's a clear distinction between 0% and 5% black, as there is between 95% and 100%. Colour gradient bars are smooth, although single-colour consistency isn't as good as we'd

hoped for a display of this price. We noticed a slightly darker area along the bottom of the panel, especially with the blue pixels. And with the display showing all-black, it looked noticeably lighter towards the bottom. While this happens with most displays and is dependent on your viewing angle, with the

"The picture is bright and pin-sharp – text looks fantastic and you can see every detail in a photo. Gradients display well too"

Cinema Display sitting normally on our desk, the lighter lower area felt more pronounced.

And, lest we forget, the screen is glossy. This means the picture looks stunning, but you do get a fair amount of reflection. The solution is to try to position it where you won't get light shining on it, but this won't always be possible, so keep this in mind, especially if you intend to do a lot of graphics work. It would have

been nice to see Apple offer an anti-glare surface, like it does with the 15-inch MacBook Pro.

As for other features, it's got an iSight camera, mic, three powered USB ports and built-in speakers. And we were impressed by the sound system, which sounded deep, thanks to the built-in sub-woofer.

All this connects to your Mac via a single cable with three connectors on the end – USB, MagSafe power adapter for MacBooks and a Mini DisplayPort. This means it'll work with most Macs from 2009 or later, including the whole current range. But if you're looking to upgrade your monitor and your Mac doesn't have a Mini DisplayPort, you should look elsewhere – getting a converter is costly. The wire's also very short and can't be swapped out for a longer one, so if your Mac Pro tower is under your desk, you may have to fork out for extensions.

Height and cost

But our two biggest complaints? First, the height of the display: it stands slightly lower than the 27-inch iMac and isn't height-adjustable – we had to use a monitor stand (or a stack of books) to make it ergonomically comfortable, which rather spoils the whole look.

Second, there's the little matter of price. £899 is a serious amount of money for a display, especially when you can pick up a decent 27-inch LED display for under £400, though admittedly with fewer pixels. But we'll leave you with this little nugget: at the time of writing, there was a 27-inch iMac on the Apple Refurb Store for £1,169 – so at just £270 more, you could bag a fully fledged computer instead.

Laurence Cable



The 27-inch LED Cinema Display is a stunning, if pricey, addition to your workspace.



The Canon imageFORMULA P-150M folds away small enough to fit in your notebook bag.

» MOBILE SCANNER

Canon imageFORMULA P-150M

£257 Can this portable sheet-feed scanner put in a premium performance away from home?

Sheet-feed scanners come in very useful when scanning multi-page documents, and portable models are useful when working away from home. Canon's ImageFORMULA P-150M is small and light enough to fit in your bag; it's powered by USB and is plug and play, with no driver installation required. You just run the *CaptureOnTouch Lite* application from the virtual disk that mounts when you connect the scanner to your Mac.

The P-150M can scan anything from A4-sized documents to business cards. It can be powered from a single USB port, but if you connect the supplied USB power cable to either a second USB port or the mains via an adapter (sold separately), it runs faster. It can scan in black and white, greyscale or colour, to JPEG, TIFF or

PDF, and if you need to scan double-sided documents, its Duplex feature allows you to do so in a single pass.

When powered by two USB ports, at the default 200dpi setting the P-150M scanned a single A4 text page in black and white in just 10.7 seconds. Although the characters were a little pixellated, the results were readable. Ramping up the resolution to 600dpi, we got a smoother, clearer document, but it took 28.6 seconds. With only one USB port used, it was only a little slower.

"The P-150M is small and light enough to fit in your bag; it's powered by USB and is plug and play"

But for all its speed, ease of use and scan quality, the P-150M lacks reliability. We tested two separate units, and when scanning documents printed on ordinary, 80gsm photocopier paper, both proved prone to misfeeds, paper jams and pages in the sheet feeder not being recognised. Canon claims it has a 20-page ADF, but it seldom got through this quantity without pulling a page in sideways and jamming at least once. It performed better with photographs and thinner paper, and also with pages that had been flat for a while and therefore lacked the slight curl found when fresh out of the printer or photocopier. Yet it's difficult to recommend a document scanner that struggles with freshly printed documents.

Ian Osborne

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Canon, Inc
www.canon.co.uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Optical resolution: 600dpi
Support for scanning transparencies: No **ADF:** 20 sheets **Dimensions:** 28x9.5x4cm

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Speedy
- ⊕ Excellent portability
- ⊖ Too unreliable
- ⊖ Doesn't like multiple pages

VERDICT

★★★☆☆
"Great feature set and portability, but too sensitive to imperfections to be really practical."



The new 7390 boasts the instantly recognisable FRITZ!Box crimson and silver livery.

>> WIRELESS ROUTER

AVM FRITZ!Box WLAN 7390



£240 Is this the integrated wireless modem router Mac users have been waiting for?

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: AVM GmbH
www.avm.co.uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Wireless: 802.11n, g, b and a
Connections: Tandem 2.4GHz and 5GHz, integrated DECT base station
Power consumption: 6-8 watts
Dimensions: 21x15.5x2.5cm

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Simultaneous dual band
- ⊕ Very fast
- ⊕ Packed with features
- ⊖ Expensive

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Fast and feature-rich, the FRITZ!Box could transform your home network."

Your router is the beating heart of your network, and not something to skimp on. This new FRITZ!Box is definitely at the luxury end of the market, but it's more than just a router.

As well as networking your home machines and getting you on the internet, the FRITZ!Box Fon WLAN 7390 works as a base station for up to six cordless phones. Up to five telephone answering machines can be set up, and it can send and receive faxes. But it's as a networking and internet device that it really shines.

The 7390 is the first FRITZ!Box router with simultaneous dual band. This enables it to use the less congested 5GHz waveband at the same time as the 2.4GHz band. Routers that don't offer this feature are forced to use the crowded 2.4GHz

band when wireless 'g' units such as mobile phones or internet radios are also connected, slowing down transfers. Other new technologies improve wireless and DSL speeds too. In our tests, transferring a 1GB file from a MacBook to a NAS drive connected to the router took less than half the time compared to its predecessor, the FRITZ!Box 7270 (itself no slouch). Its traffic-shaping features, which prioritise certain connection types, have also been polished. We surfed the web and used

"As well as getting you on the internet, the FRITZ!Box works as a base station for six cordless phones"

email in the midst of a big download, with very little loss of performance.

The router's two USB ports enable you to connect an external storage device for NAS capabilities, share a USB printer on the network or fit a compatible dongle to go online using 3G. It has an in-built uPnP-compatible media streamer, and 512MB of internal memory. It plays nicely with MobileMe's Back to my Mac feature, and a new firmware release (imminent at the time of writing) brings a new user interface and a guest mode, whereby WLAN access is made available for visitors but isolated from the home network.

£240 may seem expensive for a router, but the price is bound to fall over time and you certainly can't fault this for quality.

Ian Osborne

>> MOTION CONTROLLER

Gyration Air Mouse Elite

£90 Can it cope with your presentations?

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Movea, SA
www.gyration.com

SPECIFICATIONS

Connectivity: Wireless 2.4GHz
Power: Rechargeable lithium battery
Range: 100 feet

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Great motion controls
- ⊕ Very stylish
- ⊖ Awkward button positioning
- ⊖ Could be more configurable

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Excellent motion-sensing, but some might find it awkward to use."

When we reviewed the Gyration Air Mouse GO Plus back in *MF217*, our main complaint was that although its base functions worked on a Mac, the drivers needed to configure its programmable buttons were Windows-only. Now Gyration's *MotionTools* software has been released for OS X, we can get the most out of this new Air Mouse Elite.

Gyration's Air Mouse range is based on a similar motion-sensing technology as used with the Nintendo Wii's hand controllers. You move your pointer by waving the mouse through the air, holding a trigger button so it only moves when you want it to. It's very responsive and easy to control. There's a laser in



The Air Mouse Elite offers a very different form factor to its stablemate, the GO Plus.

there too, so you can also use the device as a desktop mouse. Left and right buttons are catered for, as is a scroll wheel. Three 'media buttons' can be programmed with separate functions for different categories of software – volume control and pause for media apps, or navigation when using an internet browser, for instance. Unfortunately, you can't add apps to *MotionTools*' pre-defined lists, so (for example) a Media Player profile

only works for *iTunes* and *VLC*; and Presentation settings only for *PowerPoint* and *Keynote*. Swiping gestures also can be assigned, and triggered by holding the circular button as you wave the mouse.

The Air Mouse Elite is certainly more comfortable than the GO Plus when used as a desktop mouse, but some might find it less ergonomic in the air. Try before you buy if you can.
Ian Osborne

>> SPEAKER DOCK

SoundFreaq SFQ-01A

£200 Can this brand make a name for itself?

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Twine International
www.soundfreaq.com

SPECIFICATIONS

Drivers: Twin 2.75 inch
Inputs: Dock connector, Bluetooth, AUX-in
Dimensions: 32x16.8x15.4cm

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Complete and detailed sound
- ⊕ Bluetooth connectivity
- ⊖ Doesn't shape sound well
- ⊖ Not a great looker

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Bluetooth connectivity is useful, but other docks offer a fuller sound."

According to SoundFreaq, the SFQ-01A is built with three objectives in mind:

performance, experience and design. So that's how we'll judge it. Its performance is acceptable given the price, but it's far from outstanding. Audio is complete and detailed, but not as broadly shaped as we'd like.

A feature called 'U-Cubed', or UQ3, uses a proprietary technology to widen the sound, making the custom-built drivers seem further apart than they actually are. It does make a difference, but it's not as effective as Altec Lansing's similar ESS function. You can manually adjust the bass and treble, but not by much, and this feature doesn't work at all when UQ3 is switched on.



The SFQ-01A offers Bluetooth connectivity as well as a dock connector.

As well as docking your iPod/iPhone or using the 3.5mm AUX-in socket to listen to non-Apple audio players, you can transmit your sounds wirelessly from any A2DP-capable Bluetooth device. Pairing is easy, and it's great for streaming from your Mac or iPad, or for keeping your iPhone or iPod touch to hand while listening to your music. There's an app to turn your iOS device into a remote too.

But the SFQ-01A's design is underwhelming. There's some neat touches, like the door on the side of the unit that houses the hand controller, but with its blocky design and fingerprint-hungry shiny plastic finish, it's certainly no great looker.

SoundFreaq's device offers decent quality for the price, but there are better docks at the £200 mark.
Ian Osborne

Words: Ian Osborne



>> WIRELESS DONGLE

Pogoplug Adapter**\$29 (£18)** pogoplug.com

01 This USB wireless adapter brings Wi-Fi connectivity to your Pogoplug NAS drive. You just plug it into one of your Pogoplug's USB ports, select your wireless network through your web browser, enter your password and disconnect your Ethernet cable. Naturally, wireless connectivity isn't as fast as Ethernet. Copying a 1GB file took 189 seconds over a Homeplug AV connection, but 228 seconds over wireless 'n'. Still, if you're willing to sacrifice speed for wire-free convenience, it's a bargain. It should be in the UK by the time you read this.

VERDICT

★★★★★

"A useful accessory for your Pogoplug NAS setup if speed isn't everything to you."

>> IPHONE 4 BATTERY

Mophie Juice Pack Air**£80** www.mophie.com

02 This may be pricier than some iPhone 4 battery packs and doesn't have the highest capacity either. But its 1500mAh battery, which took about three hours to charge, boosted our flat iPhone battery to 80% – again, in around three hours – as we listened to music. You charge it from your Mac via a micro USB lead. With the phone in the Mophie, both batteries charge and you can sync to iTunes. The case is robust and the rubberised coat means it won't slide around. And thanks to a little switch, you can decide when to use your reserve power.

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Not the cheapest or highest-capacity, but it oozes quality and protects your phone too."

>> PORTABLE MOUSE

Microsoft Arc Mouse**£30** www.microsoft.com

03 Travel mice often involve compromise. Some are too small, others too large to stow away, and not all portable controllers offer the same quality as a desktop mouse. Microsoft's innovative Arc Mouse is a welcome exception. The Arc Mouse feels chunky and solid – just the thing if you prefer a meaty, sizeable mouse. It folds to 60% of its open size for travel, trapping its tiny USB wireless dongle and switching off the mouse to save battery power. And its four customisable buttons are programmable on a Mac via a handy preference pane.

VERDICT

★★★★★

"A superbly designed travel mouse that's comfortable and highly portable too."

>> IDEVICE STYLUS

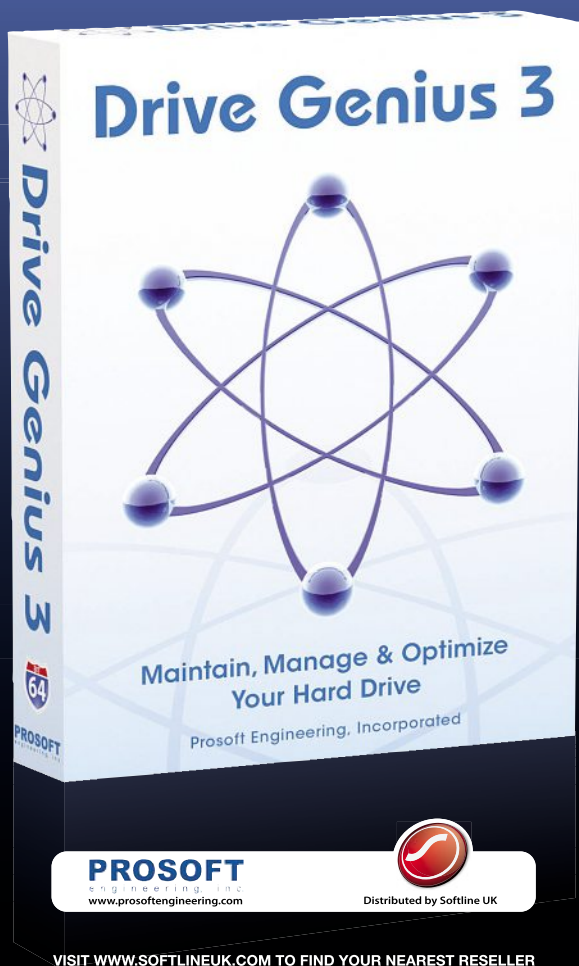
Just Mobile AluPen**£14** www.xtand.net

04 If you've ever wished your iPhone, iPad or iPod touch had a stylus, the AluPen could be for you. This pencil-like creation is made of aluminium, with a rubberised nib that mimics your finger's electrical conductivity. This means it can be used on the capacitive touchscreens offered by Apple devices. Although unnecessary for opening apps, typing on a virtual keyboard and other basic iOS uses, it comes in handy for handwritten notes or simple sketches. It keeps your screen free of fingerprints too. Unfortunately, the nib's a little too large for very fine detail.

VERDICT

★★★★★

"A useful tool that comes in handy when a fine touch is needed – but not too fine."



Drive Genius 3

Maintain, Manage & Optimize Your Hard Drive

New Features



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64-bit



DrivePulse®



Raid Support



Email Notifications



Enhanced Defrag



Enhanced Repartition

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- Shred
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- Sector Edit
- Clone
- DriveSlim®
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>>PHOTO CATALOGUING AND EDITING SOFTWARE

Apple iPhoto '11

£45 iPhoto '11 is part of Apple's iLife '11 suite. But how much is new, and is it worth the upgrade?

KEY INFO

Developer: Apple
www.apple.com/uk

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6.3 or later **Processor:**
 Intel **RAM:** 1GB **Disk space:** 5GB

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Great-looking full-screen modes
- ⊕ Good Facebook integration
- ⊕ Book tools even better
- ⊕ Smart new slideshow themes
- ⊖ Full-screen mode feels separate
- ⊖ Otherwise, little has changed

VERDICT

★★★★★

"iPhoto '11 dramatically enhances the way you experience and share your photos, and it's worth it for that alone."

Apple's iPhoto '11 is all about new ways of enjoying and sharing your photos. This is achieved with improvements to the full-screen mode, the online sharing features and the books, cards and slideshow tools. Also, the full-screen mode has been extended so that you can now browse your Faces, Places, Events, Albums and Projects. You can choose which of these you want using buttons at the bottom of the screen and then double-click the Album, say, that you want to look at.

Albums look very different now in full-screen view. Previously, they were just entries in the source list, but in this new mode they get their own icons, just like Events – they're styled like stacks of photos, with the Key Photo you've selected on the top. When you've finished browsing your Album, you click a button at the top-left to go back to the main view. The full-screen mode is a terrific way to browse your photos, especially if you've got other people crowded round your Mac to watch.

Full-screen view

But there is a flaw. Full-screen view feels different and separate to the standard view. It's like an alternative interface rather than an extension to the existing one. And you'll still have to swap back to the standard view for some routine housekeeping tasks, including imports. Never mind, though, because iPhoto '11 has lots

The full-screen mode now shows Projects, Events, Faces, Places and Albums in a uniform appearance.

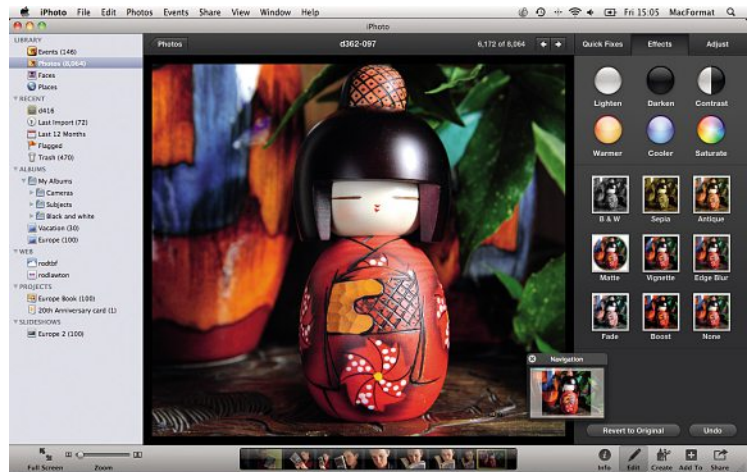
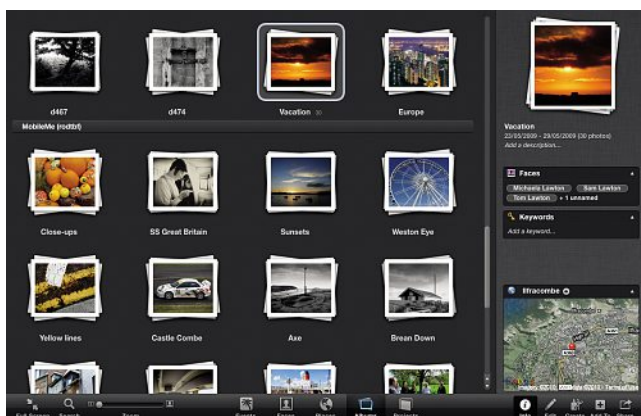


Image-editing tools now share a single panel rather than being spread between palettes.

more to offer. iPhoto will now download existing Facebook albums from your account, however they were uploaded; it can post pictures to your Wall, as well as albums, and can upload Profile pictures too. The comments synchronisation is smart – comments made by your Facebook pals show up in the photo's Info panel.

"Albums look very different in full-screen view. Previously they were just entries in the source list, but now they get their own icons"

iPhoto's new book tools are equally impressive. The highlights here are the new dynamic theme browser, which uses your own photos to preview the book design, the fact that you can edit books in full-screen mode, and an All Pages view that shows you the layout of your whole book in a single screen. The Autoflow feature will make your highest-rated photos the biggest, use face detection to crop photos intelligently and keep photos together when they were taken on the same day. It really does take just a few minutes to make a ready-to-print, professional-looking book, and the design themes are good enough to flatter even the most amateurish pictures.

Apple's new letterpress cards are pretty pricey, but it's the quality of the

production process and the finished product that you're paying for. And while a couple of the six new slideshow themes are a bit odd, the overall standard is excellent.

But is this all a bit superficial? Yes, a bit. If all you want iPhoto for is to organise and fix up your photos, there's really not much here that's

different. The reorganisation of the editing tools is handy, but other aspects of the interface design are less successful. You now have to click a button to activate the search box on the bottom left, as well as using the thumping great Info panel on the right rather than a little box at the bottom of the source list to type in photo descriptions.

You'll soon adapt to the new screen layouts, though, and iPhoto's new sharing options are so good you might be inspired to start using your photos in new and more adventurous ways, which can only be a good thing. Besides, it's only £45 for the whole iLife suite, and for this you're getting new versions of iMovie and GarageBand too.

Rod Lawton

>>VIDEO-EDITING SOFTWARE

Apple iMovie '11

£45 The latest version of iLife's video-editing solution is crammed full of new features

Since iMovie's complete overhaul in 2007, its mantra has always been to appeal to novice users. While more experienced video editors complained of this streamlining, beginners positively lapped up the changes. The interface was clearer, the options sparse, and the way it worked was completely different from any other video-editing program on the market.

Over the last two revisions, more advanced tools have been added, but these are cleverly hidden by default so as not to intimidate a person launching the program for the first time. Yet they offer enough power to perform complex edits without having to resort to more advanced applications such as *Final Cut Express* or *Final Cut Pro*. So what's been introduced this time around?

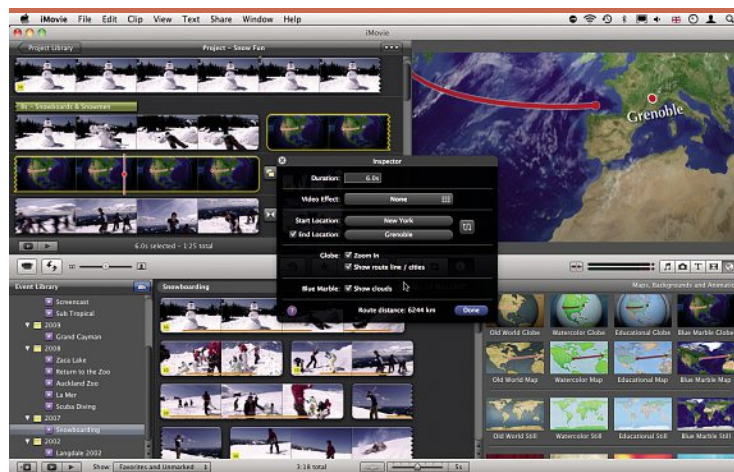
The feature that's taken most of the limelight is Movie Trailers. With it, iMovie can help you create impressive-looking trailers. You can

"You have a collection of 20 audio filters to alter the track's pitch, make it sound as if it was recorded in an open space, and so on"

even add a company logo that looks uncannily like one of those from the big Hollywood studios. But although it works incredibly well and iMovie will tell you which shot you need next, finding a requested close-up or wide shot within your clips can be a daunting task. Therefore, don't think about using Movie Trailers until you've analysed your footage using the People Finder command. This process also figures out the type of shot that's been used, and coupled with iMovie's keyword tool, it makes creating a trailer a breeze.

Audio is back

The other big new feature is the re-introduction of audio editing (it was available in iMovie '06 but has been conspicuous by its absence ever



You can zoom into your maps slightly now, and even include cloud cover on the globe.

since). The way it's handled is remarkably simple: every action is performed by dragging and dropping: if you need to raise a clip's volume, drag its audio level up. Need to lower a specific section? Select it then drag down – iMovie even creates handles on either side to gradually fade the changes (drag these points to alter

The Maps feature has been improved as well and now gains a zoom option, although this is nowhere near good enough if all you want to do is depict your trip between Bath and Oxford. However, it's still the best tool for transcontinental travel.

Uploading upgrade

The best part, though, is that all these new features are tucked away and casual users would most likely never notice them. For instance, you can have a traditional left-to-right timeline view, rather than the default top-to-bottom configuration. So iMovie '11 is now easy enough for novices, but powerful enough for editors serious about filmmaking yet not quite ready to jump to *Final Cut*. **Steve Paris**

With the help of the new People Finder feature, Movie Trailers can be a lot of fun to work with.



KEY INFO

Developer: Apple
www.apple.com/uk

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6.3 or later **Processor:** Intel **RAM:** 1GB **Disk space:** 5GB

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Great, simple audio-editing tools
- ⊕ Powerful One-Step Effects
- ⊕ Fun movie trailers
- ⊕ Traditional timeline view
- ⊕ HD export to more online options
- ⊖ Needs Snow Leopard

VERDICT

★★★★★

"This is a strong update that you should definitely look into if you want to make your home movies even better."

>>RECORDING STUDIO

Apple GarageBand '11

£45 iLife '11's recording studio lets you rock out with new effects, lessons and features

KEY INFO

Developer: Apple
www.apple.com/uk

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6.3 or later **Processor:** Intel only **RAM:** 1GB or more

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Great for all user levels
- ⊕ New guitar amps and effects
- ⊕ Fun video game-like lessons
- ⊕ Groove Matching is great
- ⊖ Flex Time is a bit fiddly
- ⊖ A little buggy here and there

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Sporting some decent new features, this is a reasonable update to what was already a first-rate product in the iLife suite."

GarageBand '11 isn't a radical upgrade; instead it largely builds on features introduced in *GarageBand '09*, along with bringing across useful tools from *Logic*, Apple's more advanced audio production offering. The end result is an unremarkable update, but nonetheless one that will without doubt benefit both beginners and dedicated amateurs.

First, it's worth noting that everything that made *GarageBand* great last time around remains in this version. You still have first-class tools for the quick-fire creation of loop-based songs and podcasts, while those who want more depth can go for MIDI and recorded audio. There are loads of high-quality voices, effects and mixing tools built in, and a largely intuitive interface for working with everything.

Lessons for everyone

The update is primarily concerned with three things: lessons, electric guitars and timing. On the first of those, Apple has added a bunch more free lessons (including genre-specific collections, such as Pop Piano and Blues Guitar) but, more interestingly, it has gone all 'Guitar Hero' on *GarageBand* with the video game-like 'How Did I Play?' This new feature enables you to record your performance alongside the teacher's and get a running accuracy score. Progress is graphed, so you can easily

'How Did I Play?' turns practice sessions into something akin to a Guitar Hero-style video game.



GarageBand '11 provides guitarists with a number of new stomp boxes and amps.

see if you're improving over time, and exactly where you've been going wrong. On the piano, this is a fantastic motivational tool and it makes the lessons more fun; on guitar, *GarageBand* doesn't always seem able to recognise correctly played chords, to rather comical levels in the Chord Trainer, which we aren't

to be globally fixed with a single click and will undoubtedly prove invaluable to many users; Flex Time is for amending the duration of single notes and can be impressive, but we found it more fiddly to use. It's a pity Apple didn't bring across multiple time signatures from *Logic*, too, but perhaps that's asking for a bit much;

"Apple has added a bunch more free lessons, but more interestingly, it has gone all 'Guitar Hero' on GarageBand with 'How Did I Play?'"

ashamed to admit led to us yelling "but I am playing E!" at a slightly bemused iMac.

Elsewhere, electric guitarists will be happy to see the amp and stomp box collection expanded. You get seven new amps and five new stomp boxes (bringing the totals to 12 and 15, respectively), providing many hundreds of new combinations for guitarists to rock out to. Annoyingly, external controller options remain thin on the ground – in fact, *GarageBand* only officially appears to support the £300 Apogee GiO.

The time is right

On the timing front, Apple's brought across Groove Matching and Flex Time from *Logic*. Groove Matching enables slightly sloppy timing between tracks

however, it wouldn't kill Apple to finally enable you to open more than one *GarageBand* project simultaneously to make it easier to move content between your songs.

Still, we're only complaining because we love *GarageBand* so much. For amateur musicians, it's easily worth the price of *iLife* on its own; as a pure upgrade, it's a slightly tougher sell, at least if you own *GarageBand '09*. That said, we reckon Groove Matching alone will pay for itself in no time if you work with a lot of live-recorded audio, and 'How Did I Play?' adds a much-needed injection of fun to lessons, making you far more likely to persevere with your learning regime. And remember: if you're buying a Mac, *iLife* is included!

Craig Grannell

>>FILE COMPRESSION UTILITY

Stuffit Deluxe 2011

£30 The latest version aims to make sharing compressed files even easier



KEY INFO

Developer: SmithMicro
www.stuffit.com

Version: 2011

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 or later

PROS & CONS

- + Fast compression
- + Workflow management
- + Inexpensive
- Not for occasional users

VERDICT

★★★★★

"An indispensable app if you deal with a lot of archives."

We've been able to archive and decompress simple zip files in Mac OS X for some time now. Still, even with super-fast broadband, sending large files can be a pain. Add to that the fact that files are getting larger all the time and the problem gets worse. It's occasions like this that the simple archive function in OS X no longer delivers.

Stuffit Deluxe 2011 is the latest version of the compression tool that takes basic file zipping to the next level. Rather than simply create a zip file, *Stuffit* enables you to streamline your workflow in one step. It's easy, for instance, to compress and upload a folder to an FTP site or MobileMe; you can automatically add archives to emails too. You can add passwords and encrypt them all on the fly. *Stuffit*



Stuffit makes it easy to define what's going to happen to your files, thanks to the floating interface.

Deluxe also decompresses zip files that have been split, as well as almost any other compression format available.

The floating interface makes setting up workflows easy and the entire process smooth. Simply drag your folder or file over the relevant tile, and the whole archive-and-send operation is managed by *Stuffit* from then on.

As for compression and speed, *Stuffit* makes slightly smaller files at a marginally faster pace. The main benefit is certainly the extra workflow options. If you use large files a lot and send them to different places, then *Stuffit* may just well be indispensable. At about £30, it's a steal too.

Christopher Brennan

>>VECTOR DRAWING TOOL

Bohemian Coding Sketch

£35 Challenging Illustrator's dominance...

KEY INFO

Developer: Bohemian Coding
http://bohemiancoding.com

Version: 1.0.4

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 or later

PROS & CONS

- + Intuitive, usable interface
- + Excellent grids and guides
- Doesn't import editable EPS
- A little buggy and unstable

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Imperfect, but there's so much potential on offer."

As the need for resolution-independent graphics increases, designers are looking for alternatives to the weighty, pricey *Adobe Illustrator* and its web-oriented cousin, *Fireworks*. *Sketch* seemingly aims to supplant both, but at a fraction of the cost.

Sketch's sparse interface is surprisingly flexible, cleverly utilising pop-up hints and an inspector that disappears when not in use. The workspace is 'infinite', but optional rulers and a fantastic grid (along with $\square$ -hovering to access distances between objects) are available for working on structured documents (websites, print adverts). Tools and effects are fewer than in *Illustrator*, but the shapes and boolean operations are



Sketch is more fun and often more usable than Illustrator - for under one-fifteenth of the cost.

sufficient, and the ability to define symbols and text styles is a time-saver.

But *Sketch* betrays its 'version 1' status with occasional instability. The lack of nine-slice scaling limits *Sketch's* scope for interface design, and its inability to import editable EPS files is disappointing (although we found EPS export to *Illustrator* more successful).

It's worth remembering *Sketch's* focus and low price – *Illustrator CS5* costs over 15 times more. This release is a bit buggy, but it's also in many ways brilliant, with tons of potential. So while *Sketch* doesn't get our highest rating, we urge anyone who regularly works with vectors to at least check it out.

Craig Grannell

>>PHOTO STYLER

Corner-A PhotoStyler 4.6

£20 What a difference a year makes...

KEY INFO

Developer: Corner-A
http://corner-a.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: Leopard or higher
Processor: Intel and PPC-compatible

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Very powerful
- ⊕ Good range of options
- ⊕ Great user interface
- ⊖ Ease-of-use blind spots

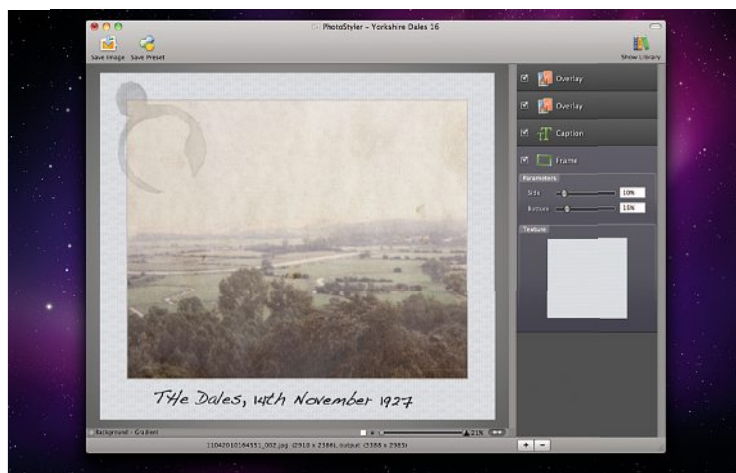
VERDICT

★★★★★
"A powerful and easy-to-use app that would be spectacular with a little more polish."

PhotoStyler has come a long way since we reviewed version 2.2 in *MF218*, early in 2010. The developer has responded to criticisms about the interface and unMac-like appearance.

This new release is far more intuitive and user-friendly, though a couple of niggles remain.

It's an easy-to-use app for manipulating and correcting digital pictures. You can apply filters, crop the image, correct its colours, remove noise or scratches, add a frame, skew the perspective and more. Most filters are user-adjustable, so you can, for example, set the strength of an unsharp mask or the size and style of your frame, and they can be chained to create an overall effect. If you want



The filters in PhotoStyler can give your recent photographs a retro well-aged look.

to make your photo look old, give it a sepia tone, make the edges ragged or add an overlay to create a fingerprint or a coffee stain. More than 50 preset filter groups are supplied, and you can save your own for use.

A few minor problems keep it from greatness. The interface, although more Mac-like and intuitive than

before, still has idiosyncrasies. Adding captions is a chore and when adding a texture from the library, some might not realise you need an Overlay filter first. But if you can get past these minor problems, it's ideal for those who want more photo manipulation options than *iPhoto* offers.

Ian Osborne

>>SPEECH-RECOGNITION UTILITY

Dragon Dictate 2.0

£150 (upgrade £40) Type or be typed for

KEY INFO

Developer: Nuance Communications
www.nuance.co.uk

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 or later **Processor:** Intel Mac **Other:** Developer-approved USB mic (supplied in box)

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Handles vocal commands well
- ⊕ Easy to get up and running
- ⊖ Unreliable transcription accuracy
- ⊖ Key input issues when dictating

VERDICT

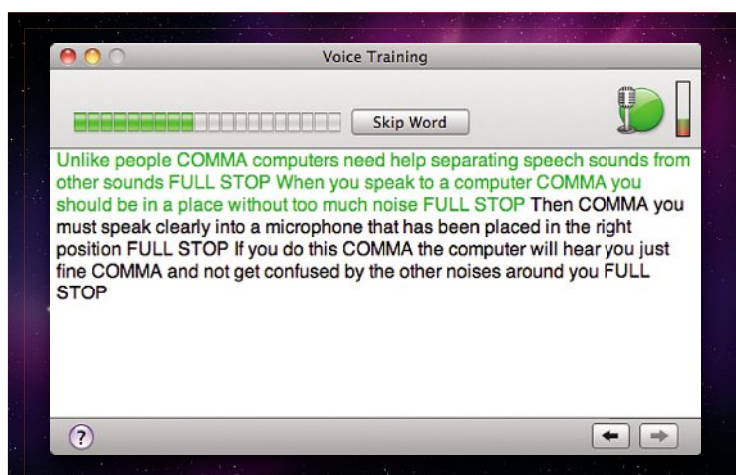
★★★★★
"This utility replaces one chore - typing - with another: proofreading. The trade-off depends on your keyboard skills."

This app - an update of the product previously named *MacSpeech* - makes nattering at your Mac a boon to productivity.

Headphones and mic are provided in the full-price package, and on installation you go through a few minutes of training the software by reading short passages. You're then ready to use *Dragon Dictate*, either as a substitute for typing text or to navigate your Mac.

Navigation performs well. You can open apps, activate menu items and dialog buttons, create emails, go to websites, and more. For many, this is a novelty, but if you find the keyboard-and-pointer combo tough to negotiate, the commands are useful.

However, *Dragon Dictate* must recognise any word you choose to throw at it. And this is where its



Dragon Dictate takes some getting used to, but it might be just the thing for you.

limitations appear. Because of the need to speak slowly and to indicate capitalisation and so on, we found it no faster than typing; and it made more mistakes than we did, not just forgivably confusing homonyms but sometimes introducing clumps of random letters. This means you have to check its output very carefully.

The issue, though, isn't the accuracy of the speech recognition - it's the quality of your typing. If you're slow with the keyboard, a hopeless speller, or if you find speaking more natural than typing, you might find *Dragon Dictate* handy; but if typing is second nature to you, you might not.

Barnaby Page

>> WRITING PROJECT MANAGER/WORD PROCESSOR

Scrivener 2.0



£30 The first-rate long-form writing tool gets an impressive update

KEY INFO

Developer: Literature & Latte
www.literatureandlatte.com

REQUIREMENTS

Processor: Intel/PPC
OS: Mac OS X 10.4 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Loads of great new features
- ⊕ Hugely improved corkboard
- ⊕ Better outlining
- ⊖ Some aspects are quite complex

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Far and away the best application available for long-form writing - on any platform."

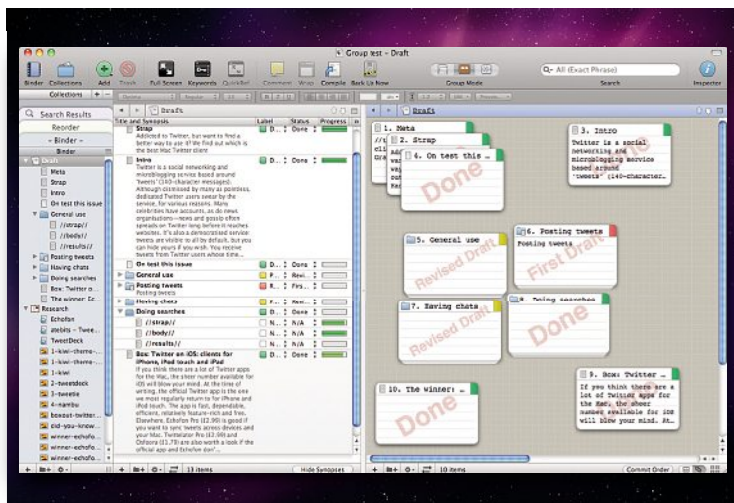
Plenty of writing tools exist, but few are specifically designed for writers. Even fewer are developed by a writer, but *Scrivener* is a rare exception, designed by Keith Blount to plug a perceived gap in the market.

Rather than joining *Pages* and *Word* in the headlong rush towards desktop-publishing-style layouts within word processors, it instead arms you with powerful tools that prove hugely beneficial for dealing with complex and lengthy writing projects.

Although you can use *Scrivener* to bash out reams of copy in a linear fashion, doing so misses the point. The application is also good for cobbling together articles, scripts and essays. Built-in templates get you started with various kinds of projects, each providing a structural overview in the Binder sidebar; here, you can add further folders and text files, rearranging them by drag-and-drop. When you're done, your masterpiece can be exported in various formats, using *Scrivener's* initially baffling but nonetheless powerful Compile sheet.

With the writer in mind

At this point, *Scrivener* probably sounds like a user-friendly outline view in *Pages* or *Word*, but its other features take it far beyond those products when it comes to project



This latest version of Scrivener provides major updates to project-management views.

management. You can dump all manner of research into the Binder, including images, text files and web pages. Furthermore, the folders within can have context-sensitive icons applied (characters, locations and so on). *Scrivener's* views are also well-suited to the process of writing -

The more you explore *Scrivener* 2.0, the more you find. Often, you'll think "I wish there was a writing app that could do..." and you'll find *Scrivener* does it: snapshots with revision comparison; automated backups and sync with mobile apps such as *Dropbox*; a full-screen mode;

"You can use it to bash out copy in a linear fashion... but it's also good for cobbling together articles, scripts and essays"

you can pick between composite, outline, corkboard or Page views. The last of those is new, and is particularly useful for scriptwriters.

Outline and corkboard have been upgraded; the former now boasts sortable columns, which offer more than a dozen titles (such as Progress and Status) and the corkboard - a digital index board for sub-document synopses and other notes - now provides a free-form mode. This alone will justify *Scrivener's* \$25 (£17) upgrade fee for many, since it provides a wonderfully tactile way to rearrange a project's documents. Also a new Collections feature in the Binder provides further scope for experimenting with alternate structures, without affecting your main project.

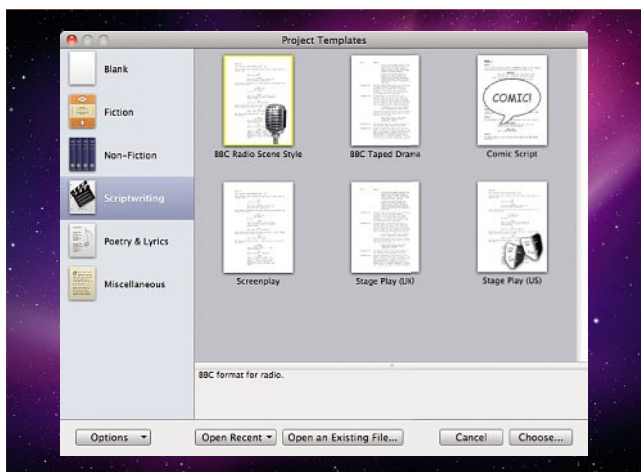
quick reference panels (think Quick Look, but with editable content); split-pane viewing; user-definable count targets. It's all there, and, amazingly, it's generally pretty easy to access and use, along with being really robust and stable.

Essential app

As with the original *Scrivener*, the latest version is perhaps an acquired taste - more so with the new features adding another layer of complexity. But then this app has never been about appealing to the masses - if you're looking to bang out a letter, stick with *Pages*; but if you want the best tool around for organising thoughts and writing projects, *Scrivener* is a no-brainer purchase.

Craig Grannell

Scrivener ships with several useful pre-defined project templates, although it's easy to create your own.



>> WINDOW MANAGER AND DOCK ADD-ON

HyperDock

£7 Windows 7 features for your Mac and more

KEY INFO

Developer: Christian Baumgart
http://hyperdock.bahoom.de

Version: 0.9.11.1

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Great window management
- ⊕ Handy Dock shortcuts
- ⊕ Editable delays for actions
- ⊖ No window-snapping shortcuts

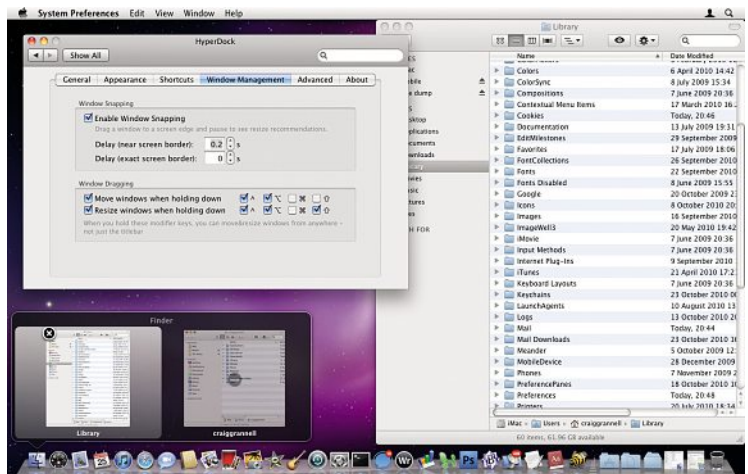
VERDICT

★★★★★

"Impressive and feature-packed, especially in its window management."

Mac users often criticise Windows, but Microsoft's operating system has plenty of interesting features that would work well on the Mac. It just so happens that *HyperDock* brings some of them to Mac OS X, bundling setup options into a handy *System Preferences* pane.

HyperDock's features cover window management and Dock add-ons. Some window management features ape Aero Snap in a manner similar to Irradiated Software's *Cinch* – drag a window to the left or right screen edge to make it cover half the screen; drag a window to the top edge to make it full-screen. You can also drag a window to the bottom edge to make it cover the bottom half of the screen. In addition, *HyperDock* enables you to drag and resize windows from anywhere by holding



Top-left: window-management; bottom-left: Dock thumbnail previews; right: a 'snapped' window.

modifier keys and moving the cursor. For the Dock, *HyperDock* mirrors Windows 7's thumbnail previews, providing overviews of open windows, which can be accessed by a click or closed directly from the preview. *Safari*, *iCal* and *iTunes* optionally display tabs, events and the current track, respectively. This is less useful than the window management features, since Dock Exposé does much the same thing at

least as elegantly. But *HyperDock* also provides custom shortcuts for each Dock item; you can define actions (New Window, Exposé and others) and assign a keyboard/mouse combination of your choosing.

In use, *HyperDock* is stable, and options and exclusions enable you to deactivate components you don't use. And for only a little more outlay than *Cinch*, it offers far better value.

Craig Grannell

>> FINDER AUGMENTATION

TotalFinder

£10 Add tabs, hot-keys and more to Finder

KEY INFO

Developer: BinaryAge
http://totalfinder.binaryage.com

Version: 1.0.1

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Tabs and dual mode are great
- ⊕ Features are optional
- ⊖ Slows down Finder
- ⊖ Occasional bugs in use

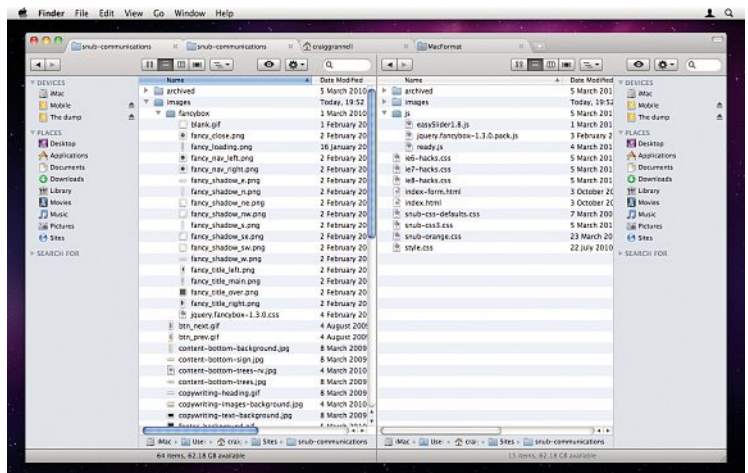
VERDICT

★★★★★

"An interesting, stable, genuinely useful Finder add-on, but can be buggy."

Not so long ago, OS X's *Finder* was a revelation, providing a new, exciting way to access documents on a computer. But that was many years ago and now *Finder* often looks tired compared to other navigation systems, especially if you're a power user. There have been efforts to replace *Finder* (notably *Path Finder*), but *TotalFinder* instead aims to build on top of Apple's file browser with useful new features.

Tabbed and dual-pane browsing are the highlights. The former uses *Google Chrome*-style tabs that enable you to open multiple tabs in a single *Finder* window. Tabs can be dragged between windows or turned into new windows, and dragging files between tabs works nicely. The dual-pane mode also works surprisingly well, effectively welding two *Finder*



Add tabs and dual-pane navigation to Finder with *TotalFinder*, similar in style to *Google Chrome*.

windows together; the end result is perhaps visually cluttered, but we don't see how BinaryAge could improve things without losing functionality, and the mode enables efficient file management.

TotalFinder also provides a system-wide *Finder* window called Visor, which appears from the foot of the screen when activated, and settings to place folders above files and show

invisible system files. The trade-off for all these features currently appears to be speed (*Finder* was less snappy, though still usable, on our test machines when *TotalFinder* was running) and aesthetics; *TotalFinder's* *Chrome* stylings are okay, but there were regular visual bugs throughout testing, such as background windows being displayed in foreground style.

Craig Grannell



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>>FIRST-PERSON SHOOTER

Left 4 Dead 2



£15 If you hate the sight of blood (and brains, limbs and human offal), look away now...

KEY INFO

Developer: Valve Corporation
www.steampowered.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6.4 or higher (Snow Leopard Graphics Update required)
Processor: Dual-core Intel 2GHz or better
Video: ATI Radeon 2400, NVIDIA 8600M or higher

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Great visuals
- ⊕ Frenetic pace
- ⊕ References classic horror
- ⊕ Superb co-operative play
- ⊕ Great enemies and weapons
- ⊖ It's stress-inducing

VERDICT

★★★★★

"The gore is gratuitous, and there's no intellectual merit in any of it, but it's deliciously good fun - and strictly for the over 18s."

As if clowns weren't scary enough: this one's dead, and trying to kill you.



Did you catch Mark Gatiss' excellent *History of Horror*, recently aired on BBC Four? If you did, you'll remember vividly the scenes from George A Romero's *Dawn of the Dead*. This is precisely the territory we find ourselves in at the opening of *Left 4 Dead 2*, the first level of which takes place in a shopping mall besieged by zombies with a bunch of four disparate characters fighting to stay alive.

L4D2 doesn't have the satirical content of Romero's work but it is, to some extent, a loving homage to that film in particular and the zombie horror genre in general. It also makes superb use of the video game medium to achieve a level of immersive, panic-stricken horror of which movies are not really capable.

The heroes - or, more accurately, survivors - of this sorry tale are an eclectic bunch, but they have in common the fact they're immune to the worldwide pandemic that has turned the population into zombies and they are very much in it together.

L4D2 is designed to play as a co-operative multiplayer game. This results in two structural peculiarities. First, all the game's scenarios (and the two or three scenes contained therein) are playable right from the get-go. There's a narrative arc throughout all of the stages of the game if you play them in order, but each individual chapter is like a self-contained movie, complete with



Going it alone in the *L4D* dystopia is a recipe for bloody disaster - teamwork is the key to survival.

unique location and its own introductory theatrical poster.

The reason for this is that playing solo is a secondary consideration. It's quite possible to play by yourself with the other three characters falling under the control of the computer - and it works extremely well - but what you really need to do is get online, choose a scenario, then work your way through each mini movie, with other human beings at your side.

But whether playing alone or with others, the resultant gameplay is the

genuine feelings of panic and terror, but in addition, the co-operation of the players also creates a strong sense of comradeship.

The story mode is tremendously well designed. The script is strong; there are set-pieces that alter the pace, so after a period of exploration you might find yourselves in a confined area and besieged by countless screaming maniacs. Also, the variety of enemies (fast, slow, acid-spewing, bile-puking horrors) and weapons make for a uniquely

"L4D2 doesn't have the satirical content of Romero's work but it is, to some extent, a loving homage to the zombie horror genre"

same. You travel from room to room, place to place, blasting zombies with whatever weapons are available. Some enemies shuffle around, others run towards you at speed, some grab you and bash you against the scenery while other witch-like characters pursue you relentlessly, wailing at you if you disturb them. If one of you gets into difficulty, another player can blow your attacker away, or administer first aid, or even revive you with a defibrillator.

The fraught gameplay and the relentless onslaught of hideously deformed creatures generates

muscular assault on the senses. And of course, this being a game designed for online fun, there are various play modes available such as Versus and Survival, one of which features just you, a magnum and a horde of the undead baying for blood.

In closing, it has to be said that *L4D2* is gratuitously gory, and it doesn't have any political points to make, but it's clearly designed by those with affection for both the cinematic horror genre and survival horror video games. It's just that here, the horror has been pumped up to 11.

Andy Dyer

>> ACTION

Battlestations Pacific

£35 Reliving an infamous war of the skies

KEY INFO

Developer: Robosoft Technologies
www.feralinteractive.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.5.8+ **Processor:** Intel 1.8GHz **RAM:** 2GB **Video:** 256MB discrete graphics **Hard disk:** 9GB

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Rich gameplay
- ⊕ Good looks
- ⊕ Great dogfighting
- ⊖ It's a bit unwieldy

VERDICT

★★★★★

"If you can handle the job and ignore the flaws, there's a lot to like here."

Battlestations Pacific begins its story in the early 1940s when Japan was trying to wrest control of the Pacific territories from the Europeans and Americans. The two hefty campaigns included in the game cover the conflict from the Japanese and US perspective.

The Japanese campaign begins with the attack on Pearl Harbour, giving players a platform from which to change the course of history. The US campaign starts after the Battle of Midway, in which the Japanese suffered heavy losses, and US forces now face a threatened and therefore dangerous opponent.

It's a curious and imbalanced mix of action and strategy. On the one hand, and for the most part, it's straight-up



The sheer joy of flying all manner of World War II fighter planes is not to be underestimated.

action, giving you the opportunity to control submarines, ships and aircraft and slug it out with the enemy in real time. On the other hand, players are not just in charge of a single craft, but have to manage the entire operation.

This aspect can become unwieldy and frustrating, but it's worth getting to grips with because taking part in battles from the bridge or cockpit of

war machines is enjoyable. Controlling subs and ships is easy and fun, but it's flying that provides the real payoff.

A major part of the game's appeal is in its online multiplayer modes. These include: Escort, Siege, Duel and Island Capture. All in all, it falls short of being an essential purchase, but there's an enormous amount of fun to be had.

Andy Dyer

>> STRATEGY

Victoria II

£30 Guide your nation through revolution

KEY INFO

Developer: Virtual Programming
www.deliver2mac.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.5.8+ **Processor:** Intel **RAM:** 2GB **Hard disk:** 1.1GB **Video:** 512MB VRAM **Other:** Broadband

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Comprehensive tutorials
- ⊕ Deep and rewarding
- ⊖ Dated looks
- ⊖ Still very heavy-going

VERDICT

★★★★★

"A difficult and complex game, but an improvement over the original."

Perhaps you played and loved the original *Victoria*. If so, then you'll already know what a heavy-duty strategy game it is. It's not the sort of thing a newcomer should cut their teeth on. This sequel is a bit friendlier due to the tutorials and toned-down micromanagement.

But don't be too hasty. *Victoria II* is still a very dry and complex strategy game, and as such will be pretty hard work for the uninitiated. Yet if you can stomach the challenge, there's a wealth of goodies to be enjoyed. *Victoria 2* takes place over the course of a century of global development, charting the geopolitical changes wrought by the technologies arising from the industrial revolution.

After choosing your nation, it's time to guide your people through a century of turmoil. Play now proceeds



It's as much a history lesson as a game. But don't let that put you off - there's enjoyment to be had.

via buttons to access major aspects of play, such as employment and trade, taxation, religion, warfare and diplomacy. You can also automate aspects of your society's development so that you simply have to guide it in the right direction and keep the peace, rather than having to forensically pore over every single facet of your empire.

Victoria II is a strange beast. It's a big improvement over its predecessor, but remains a tough nut to crack. And its crude board-style visuals do the game few favours in terms of appeal. But players brave enough to take it on will gradually discover a game that has been meticulously assembled.

Andy Dyer



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* Bejeweled 2, Peggle and Bookworm are available on iPhone.



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>> PUB FINDER APP

The Good Pub Guide 2011

£3.99 Find quality watering holes across the country

KEY INFO

Developer: Random House

Version: 1.0

Works with: iPhone and iPod touch, iOS 4.0 or later

PROS & CONS

- Excellent search
- Colour-coded map
- Not all pubs included
- A bit slow

VERDICT

★★★★★

"A good initial version, with more features to come."

Knowing what a pub's like can be tricky – sometimes the best places are hidden in back streets or have a shabby exterior that doesn't do justice to the great pies. So an app that will find good pubs around you is a wonderful tool.

Using a colour-coded system (which is a tad baffling at first: red for recommended pubs, yellow for reader recommendations and blue for others) the app lists the pubs closest to your current location. Red-coded ones have a review of atmosphere, ales and food, plus details of live music and the like. If you're after something in particular – be that award-winning wines or

child-friendly watering holes – filter your results accordingly.

You can search by location, and we liked the facility to find pubs close to Tube stations. There's also a map view, which colour-codes the location markers, but this only shows the pubs in your search results. We can see why this was done, but we'd have liked to be able to browse further afield.

It doesn't list every pub in the country, but we're told the next version will add 10,000 pubs to the existing 25,000, as well as the ability to leave your own reviews. It's also not always as quick and responsive as we'd have liked.

Laurence Cable



Quick pint or pub crawl, The Good Pub Guide can help you.

>> PUZZLE

Mensa Brain Test

£1.19 Some really tricky puzzles

Developer: Nomisian Ltd Version: 1.0.0

Works with: iPhone, iPod touch, iOS 3.0 or later



Fancy taxing your brain? Then download this app and prepare for some serious head-scratching. But then that's what you'd expect from

Britain's self-proclaimed High IQ Society. There are verbal, numeric and shape-based questions and you can either do a five-minute practice, or tests of varying lengths. You get to see how many you got right (but not which ones) and a Mensa Brain Test score compares you to the national average. Scores are recorded so you can see changes over time, but you're not told what you got wrong. Still, this is a great brain workout.

Laurence Cable

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Think you're clever? This app will test you to the limit – just don't expect any help!"

>> PAINTING APP

Remote Palette

59p iPad and iPhone go out to play

Developer: Dare Digital Ltd Version: 1.1

Works with: iPhone, iPod touch, iPad, iOS 3.0 or later



The iPad's a great tool for artists, but having your palette on the main canvas means less space in which to be creative. This app turns

your iPhone into the palette, leaving the iPad screen completely free of clutter to paint on. The two talk to each other over Bluetooth. As painting apps go, it's basic – there are 24 set colours to choose from and four brush sizes, but no opacity, and most annoyingly, no undo function. But ultimately, it's not meant to rival the likes of *Brushes*. *Remote Palette* is a great colouring-in app and there are a few designs for you or your offspring to get started on.

Laurence Cable

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Link the iPad and iPhone together and draw away to your heart's content."

>> IPAD NEWS READER

Pulse News Reader

£1.19 A sleek way to read the news

Developer: Alphonso Labs Inc Version: 2.0

Works with: iPad, iOS 3.2 or later.



Yes, we hear you say, another iPad news reader. But don't turn the page, because this oozes class and version 2 brings nifty new features.

Your articles appear in a grid, with pictures in some cases. Adding feeds is a breeze: import from *Google Reader*, browse suggested ones, search or Bump. Then drag and drop them between five category pages. You can read articles either as the feed entry alone or as a web page; your preference for each feed is saved. It has its faults – search isn't perfect and the previous article pops up before the new one's loaded – but we still love it.

Laurence Cable

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Get your daily news fix wrapped up in a stylish and well-thought-out app."

>>SPORTS

Championship Manager 2011

£3.99 Stats are the name of the game

KEY INFO

Developer: Eidos Interactive

Version: 1.0.0

Works with: iPhone, iPad and iPod touch, iOS 3.0 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Loads of options
- ⊕ Tactical detail aplenty
- ⊕ Fun press conferences
- ⊖ Poor graphics, no sound

VERDICT

★★★★★
"A complex and rewarding football management game."

Championship Manager 2011 boasts all the football leagues of England, Scotland, Spain, France and Italy, although for licensing reasons, not everything looks as it should in the English Premier League.

While the game is easy to pick up thanks to a well-designed interface, there's a lot of management to be done if you dig deep enough. On a basic level you'll need to read email alerts, accept or decline bids for your players, decide on your squad and choose formations for the matches themselves. And it's perfectly possible to breeze through a season doing just this – you won't get promoted, but you can enjoy a casual experience.

To really enjoy the game, you have to get a little more involved. Consult



The game is on, the stats are dancing. Bristol City look to have the edge over a slightly nervy Norwich.

your coach and decide on training regimes, rest injured players, have one-to-ones with individual players, select tactics – you can even emulate the playing style of a classic European team from the past. Press conferences are also great fun, as you choose which journalist to speak to and attempt to answer questions in ways that will please them and the fanbase.

Matches are played out on a top-down representation of the pitch, with stats rising and falling followed by animated highlights featuring little dots for players. It's functional, but we need a little more atmosphere frankly.

Oddly, there's no sound in any part of the game whatsoever. Still, this is the best of its type on the iPhone.

Andy Dyer

>>FIRST-PERSON SHOOTER

Modern Combat 2: Black Pegasus HD

£5.99 Popping a cap in Modern Warfare 2

KEY INFO

Developer: Gameloft S A

Version: 1.0.0

Works with: iPad running iOS 3.2 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Great looks
- ⊕ Excellent gameplay
- ⊕ Superb online play
- ⊖ Poor enemy AI

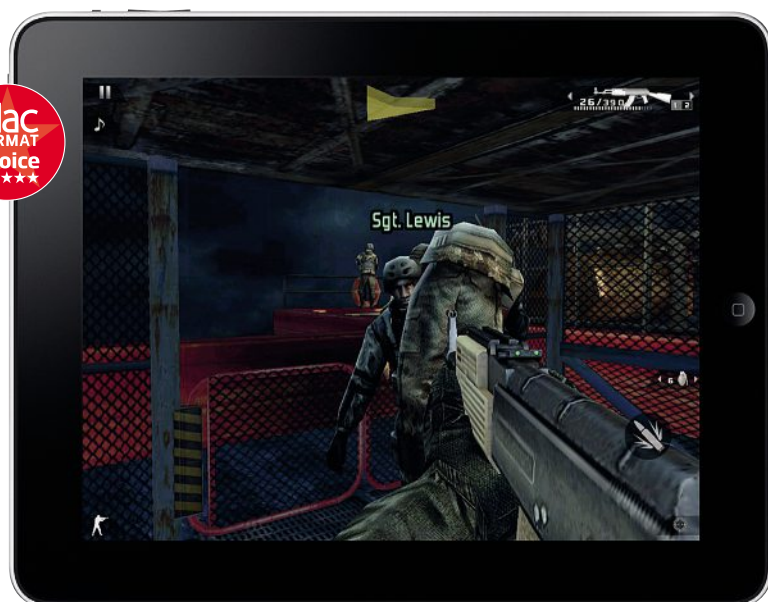
VERDICT

★★★★★
"Far and away the best FPS you can play on your iPad."

As is often the case with Gameloft's releases, *Modern Combat 2: Black Pegasus HD* is somewhat reminiscent of an existing console title with a similar name. But you won't hear us complaining, because this is the best first-person shooter available on the App Store.

Players expecting an experience on the same level as *Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2* will be disappointed. Clearly a game that fits into 450MB will come up short somewhere, but although shortcuts have, necessarily, been taken, it's amazing just how complete an experience *Black Pegasus* delivers.

Criticisms are few, but it would be remiss not to point out the occasionally poor enemy AI, the uninspiring scripting and the patchy difficulty. Otherwise, *MC2* is a superb achievement. Taking



Bored with the Thames Valley, Inspector Morse's old partner has had something of a career change.

place across three major campaigns and in a wealth of exotic locations (desert towns, jungles, snowy wastes and an oil rig, among others) players get to control several different characters in a number of roles. There are solo missions where it's just you versus the

bad guys, but some challenges have your buddies providing backup. It's thrilling stuff, made more exciting by some well-designed environments, responsive controls and an extremely accessible online multiplayer system.

Andy Dyer



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GROUP TEST



We put six budget compacts through their paces to see which one came out on top.

Words: Ben Brain Photography: Simon Lees

Compact cameras under £130

We take a look at six inexpensive cameras to find out which model best serves its compact trappings

There's no denying that camera phones, such as the iPhone, are wonderful things; they can take pretty good pictures in their own right and are undoubtedly fun photography tools. However, even if you're just a casual snapper, there will be times when you want to eke just a little more quality from your images than your phone can deliver.

There will be times when more sophisticated features such as flash or high ISO performance, optical zooms and image stabilisers, better general image quality or even just

larger file sizes will be demanded of you. And if you're more serious about your photography, there will be times when you simply won't want to lug your heavy, cumbersome and accessory-laden D-SLR with you. The answer, of course, is a reasonably

"Even if you're a casual snapper, there will be times when you want to eke more quality from your phone"

priced compact that will fit in your pocket without burning a hole in it.

There's a flood of compacts on the market with manufacturers adding to their ever-expanding ranges at such an extraordinary rate that it's difficult to keep up. Naturally, this can make choosing the right one for you a daunting task. So we've selected six of the best budget compacts and put them through their paces. They're all kind on the pocket, coming in under £130, yet they all deliver great quality images. But which one is the best for you? Read on to find out...

>> DID YOU KNOW THIS?

You don't need to get too hung up counting megapixels as a measure of a camera's quality - it's a marketing myth. A high pixel count doesn't always mean better quality.



>> COMPACT CAMERAS / At a glance



	Canon IXUS 105	Panasonic DMC-FS10	Pentax Optio I-10	Nikon COOLPIX S3000	Samsung PL150	Olympus FE-5050
Price	£115	£100	£96	£84	£129	£107
Manufacturer	Canon	Panasonic	Pentax	Nikon	Samsung	Olympus
Website	www.canon.co.uk	www.panasonic.co.uk	www.pentax.co.uk	www.nikon.com	www.samsung.com	www.olympus.co.uk
Memory card format	SD, SDHC, SDXC, MMC, MMCplus, HC MMCplus.	SD, SDHC, SDXC	SD, SDHC	SD	MicroSD, MicroSDHC	SD/SDHC
Resolution/optical	12.1MP/4x	12.1MP/5x	12MP/5x	12.0MP/4x	12.4MP/5x	14MP/5x
Dimensions (W x H x D)	90.5 x 55.8 x 21.2mm	98.4 x 55.2 x 23.4mm	101mm x 66mm x 27mm	94.3 x 55.9 x 19.0mm	99.2 x 59 x 19.9mm	92.0 x 55.0 x 18.8mm
Weight	Approx. 140g	Approx. 145g	Approx. 133g	Approx. 116g	Approx. 136.6g	Approx. 114g
LCD screen size	2.7-inch PureColor II LCD	6.7cm (2.7 inch)	LCD screen: 2.7 inch	2.7 inch	Dual screen - main: 3 inch, front: 1.5 inch	6.9 cm/2.7 inch



The Olympus FE-5050 is a good all-rounder producing crisp images.

»»TEST ONE

Image quality

So how good are the pictures? We find out...

Generally the image quality across the selection was more than acceptable, especially considering they're all budget compacts. However, there are some high and low points. The Panasonic DMC-FS10 and Canon IXUS 105 stood up best when files were closely scrutinised, revealing very little chromatic aberration (colour fringing); exposures were good and the colour rendition was natural and well-balanced.

The Samsung PL150 and Pentax Optio I-10 revealed the most disappointing quality.

In high-contrast situations, there was a fairly low dynamic range from all the compacts on

test, but this is common with these cameras in general.

In low light conditions without flash, good high ISO performance is essential. The Nikon COOLPIX S3000 delivered the best images and at ISO 800 the quality was still good. This was followed by the Canon and the Olympus. However, other compacts such as the Pentax Optio I-10, were lagging at ISO 400.

»»TEST RESULTS

Canon IXUS 105	★★★★★
Panasonic DMC-FS10	★★★★★
Pentax Optio I-10	★★★★★
Nikon COOLPIX S3000	★★★★★
Samsung PL150	★★★★★
Olympus FE-5050	★★★★★

»»TEST TWO

Features

What gives a compact that edge above the rest?

Without doubt, the Samsung PL150 has some of the cooler and more innovative features in this line-up, with a dual display so you can use the front screen for self portraits taken at arm's length.

They've even designed the base of the camera with a tilt-back feature, so you can angle your camera slightly up without a tripod. These are nice touches, but possibly not nice enough to compensate for the PL150's weaker performance in our image-quality tests. If you're counting pixels then the Olympus wins with 14MP, but this is academic compared to others that come in at

around 12MP. Screen size is important, especially given that compacts rarely come with viewfinders. The Samsung PL150 wins with the biggest 3-inch screen, with all other models using 2.7-inch screens, so there's not much in it. All models on test have a 5x optical zoom except the IXUS 105 and Nikon COOLPIX S3000, which use a 4x zoom.

»»TEST RESULTS

Canon IXUS 105	★★★★★
Panasonic DMC-FS10	★★★★★
Pentax Optio I-10	★★★★★
Nikon COOLPIX S3000	★★★★★
Samsung PL150	★★★★★
Olympus FE-5050	★★★★★



The Panasonic DMC-FS10 features fantastic 720p HD video recording.

»» HOW WE TESTED / Using real-world tests

To put our compacts through their paces, we took a selection of sample shots in a number of different lighting situations. These 'real-world' tests revealed how the cameras perform in the field, doing the job they are intended for.

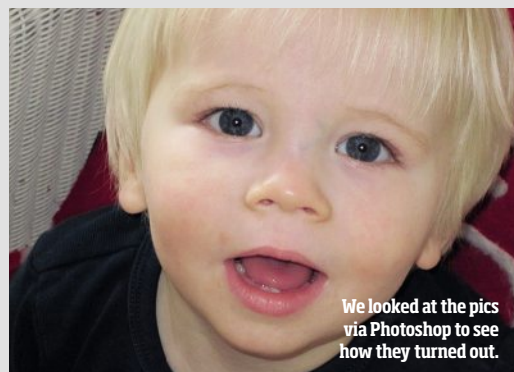
To test the general performance, dynamic range, exposure and sharpness, we photographed outside on a crisp autumn morning. We shot in fully auto mode to see how the artificial intelligence of the cameras responded to the conditions. In some situations, the images

could be improved with a manual override; however, we did not intervene.

Our ISO tests were taken indoors in shaded daylight. We shot at all minimum and maximum ISOs, and in between.

To test the colour, we used a portrait (see right) to assess the accuracy of the skin tones. All files were then scrutinised in *Photoshop CS5* on an iMac at 100%.

Our real-world tests were not just about image quality; handling is important too, so we assessed the camera's weight size, ergonomics, buttons and menu navigation.



We looked at the pics via Photoshop to see how they turned out.

»»TEST THREE

Handling

How comfortable does it feel in use?

The cool, confident design of the Canon IXUS 105 builds on the classic IXUS heritage and makes you feel you're in safe hands. Menu navigation is simple and intuitive.

If size matters and you want a camera to slip into pockets, then the Nikon COOLPIX S3000 and the Olympus FE-5050 are the most pocket-friendly, although there's not much in it with the Canon IXUS 105 and Panasonic DMC-FS10. The Samsung PL150 is a bit larger and also feels fragile. The Pentax Optio I-10's classic styling might be eye-catching to some, but it makes the most cumbersome pocket companion from this line-up. Its

plastic build reduces weight, but its robustness doesn't inspire confidence and also makes accessing some buttons awkward.

Olympus has introduced a new menu system with the Olympus FE-5050 that is easier to use and navigate than previous models, and keeps it in line with the others on test, although Panasonic's can take a bit of getting used to.

»»TEST RESULTS

Canon IXUS 105	★★★★★
Panasonic DMC-FS10	★★★★★
Pentax Optio I-10	★★★★★
Nikon COOLPIX S3000	★★★★★
Samsung PL150	★★★★★
Olympus FE-5050	★★★★★



The funky Nikon is tiny but mighty - perfect for pockets.



The Pentax comes off the weakest when looking at price.

»»TEST FOUR

Value for money

How much camera are you getting for your cash?

With all the cameras on test coming in at under £130, they're all value for money. A few years ago, the wealth of specifications and features on offer here would have been unthinkable at these prices.

With a street price of around £84, the Nikon COOLPIX S3000 is the cheapest on test and definitely an attractive proposition. However, is it worth spending a little more?

Image quality is crucial, but the Pentax Optio I-10 doesn't deliver. Even at £96, it's hard to see it as good value compared to the others. The Samsung PL150 also fails to impress in this department, and yet it's the most expensive

camera on test; despite boasting some neat features, they don't ultimately compensate for this.

There's little to choose between the Canon IXUS 105, Panasonic DMC-FS10 and Olympus FE-5050. However, the 720p HD video recording featured on the Panasonic DMC-FS10 makes it exceptionally good value, giving it the edge over the others.

»»TEST RESULTS

Canon IXUS 105	★★★★★
Panasonic DMC-FS10	★★★★★
Pentax Optio I-10	★★★★★
Nikon COOLPIX S3000	★★★★★
Samsung PL150	★★★★★
Olympus FE-5050	★★★★★

»»THE WINNER / Panasonic DMC-FS10

When choosing a compact, most of us don't need bells and whistles. However, it's easy to be seduced by fancy features, a slew of shooting modes and the like, but they're often just gimmicks. At the end of the day, it's image quality that counts. And there's two cameras that stand out: the Canon IXUS 105 and the Panasonic DMC-FS10. While the classic IXUS characteristics of elegant-yet-robust design combined with great image quality make the Canon IXUS 105 an attractive option, the addition of the 720p HD video

recording featured on the Panasonic DMC-FS10 could just give it the edge. And coming in at £15 less expensive than the Canon, it's worth the extra half a star - making it our overall winner.

»»FINAL RESULTS

Canon IXUS 105	★★★★★
Panasonic DMC-FS10	★★★★★
Pentax Optio I-10	★★★★★
Nikon COOLPIX S3000	★★★★★
Samsung PL150	★★★★★
Olympus FE-5050	★★★★★



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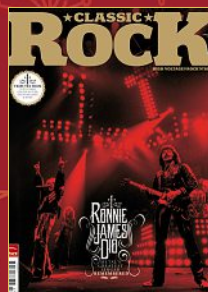
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"If you're an iPad owner, look out for iPad-only versions of your favourite apps"

APPS EVERYWHERE ON APPLE'S TABLET P119

HOW TO BUY

HOW TO BUY

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Buyers' Guide

- DESKTOPS
- LAPTOPS
- IPODS
- IPHONES
- SOFTWARE



Laurence Cable
Staff writer

Christmas is approaching fast and will cue the usual rush out to the shops to buy last-minute gifts. But before you go and buy a load of bubble bath and shower gel, have a read of our Buyers' Guide - you may well find the perfect gift in here.

Did you know that Apple offers free engraving when you buy an iPod or iPad online? It's a great way to give someone a truly personalised gift that they'll remember - and it needn't break the

bank, with an iPod shuffle costing just £39. You can also get these devices gift-wrapped with a personalised message.

And don't forget yourself either - now's a great time to upgrade to *iLife '11* or get your hands on one of the brand new MacBook Airs before the VAT rise comes into effect.

Apple has also shaved £50 off the price of the Mac mini, which means you can currently bag one of these nifty little machines for under £600.

»» BUYING ADVICE YOU CAN TRUST

Our mission is to ensure that when you buy a Mac-related product, you are completely informed about its best and worst features. We have a cast-iron policy of editorial independence. **For the latest prices and full review see the TechRadar URL listed next to each review.**

How to buy a new Mac

Prices shown don't reflect the VAT increase as of 4 January 2011

Not sure which Mac to buy? We'll help you choose!



>>> DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The Mac Pro is highly configurable. Order online for over a billion possible configurations. You can opt for up to 12 processing cores, and up to four solid state drives!

The top-of-the-range standard configuration of the Mac Pro uses two six-core Intel Xeon processors.



Apple sells its products every which way at once. You can buy a Mac direct from the online Apple Store (<http://store.apple.com/uk>); from one of the growing number of bricks-and-mortar Apple Stores around the country; from official 'Apple shops' within department stores, staffed by certified Apple Solutions Consultants; and from hundreds of independent Apple Authorised Resellers and Premium Resellers, variously selling online or on the high street.

The bigger independents buy direct from Apple, while others go through a network of distributors, listed at www.apple.com/uk/buy/distributors. Given this range of outlets, shopping around for your Mac could save you money – but probably not very much. There simply isn't

much profit margin for independent dealers to knock off. The Mac's popularity means Apple doesn't have to leave a big gap between its wholesale prices and Apple Store prices – effectively the minimum and maximum level at which retailers can sell their wares.

Authorised Resellers may knock a few pounds off Apple Store prices, and can also sell you other kit at competitive prices. Although you may find fractionally lower prices online, by choosing a local dealer you could get the

The 21.5-inch iMac starts at £999. A top-of-the-range standard iMac costs £1,649.



benefit of trying before you buy and having someone on hand to answer questions. Either way, Mac resellers tend to be very knowledgeable and keen to help.

There are a couple of other ways to cut the cost of a new Mac. Business buyers can save a fortune by

price of £1,399. Authorised Resellers can access these special rates and may even shave a bit more off for you.

To help you find the cash, Apple also offers financing options. For consumers, this spreads the payments, though you do pay interest. For businesses, flexible leasing knocks

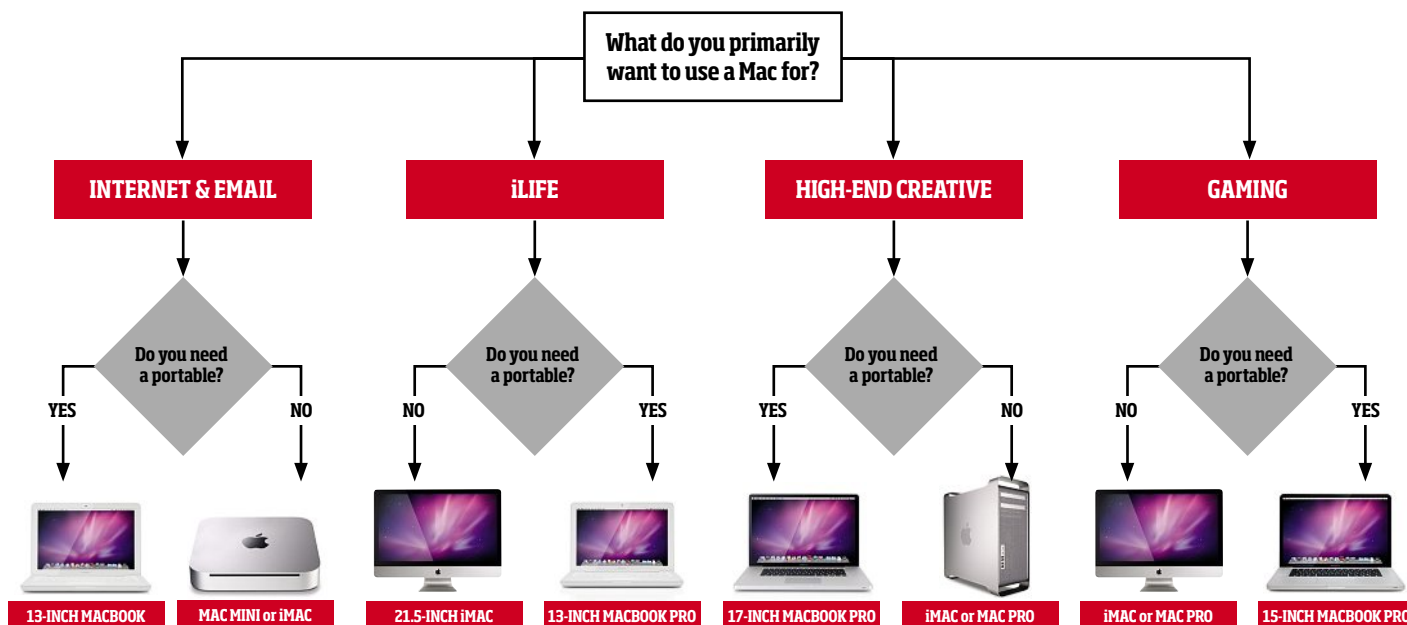
"The best time to shop for a refurbished, clearance or second-user Mac is just after Apple brings out new models"

reclaiming the VAT and offsetting the purchase against tax. If you're not eligible, you may still qualify for a discount from Apple. Any student or teacher can get special pricing, as listed at www.apple.com/uk/education/store. That includes schoolkids. The reductions aren't huge, but they're worth having: for example, a dual-core 27-inch iMac lists for £1,315, compared to the regular

more off your tax bill and lets you upgrade your hardware – and indeed software – when necessary without spending big chunks of capital. You can find out plenty more at www.apple.com/uk/financing.

Your budget will stretch even further with clearance, refurb and second-user deals. If you can suppress your envy of marginally newer, shinier kit, the best time to shop for a Mac is

>> CHOOSING A MAC / Which one is right for you?



just after Apple brings out new models. Wander down to John Lewis and you're quite likely to find the last of the old range with three-figure reductions. Do check the specs against the incoming versions, which will offer more for the same original price, but at the bottom end of the range you could pay less than the current entry-level for a perfectly good machine. Anywhere that holds Macs in stock is similarly worth a raid, and online retailers also have clearance bins.

Bargain basement

Apple itself has a surprisingly little-known online bargain basement at <http://store.apple.com/uk/browse/home/specialdeals/mac>. It's a treasure trove of cut-price kit, with some clearance items and many described as 'refurbished'. This usually means someone's bought a Mac, then changed their mind or found a problem and sent it back. Industry insiders tell us these returns often have absolutely nothing wrong with them, and in any case they're fully tested and any faults fixed before they're resold. They're guaranteed for a full year and extendable up to three years via AppleCare.

Besides deciding who to buy from, there's the tricky question of which



The MacBook is ideal for entry-level users, but the more demanding should go for a Pro.

Mac to pick. You can have a MacBook, MacBook Pro, Mac mini, iMac or Mac Pro. Most Mac families offer several standard models, plus

next option doubles the hard disk space and adds a more powerful graphics card - but at £248 extra, you'd really have to want that graphics

"Most Mac families offer several standard models, plus plenty of built-to-order options, adding up to hundreds of possibilities"

plenty of built-to-order options, adding up to hundreds of possibilities.

By comparing the prices of different configurations - easily done at <http://store.apple.com/uk> - you can suss out the best value. For example, the entry-level 21.5-inch iMac is a bargain at £999. If you want a higher spec, the

card. But hang on: you're not limited to the preset models. By clicking the Select button, you can tweak the specs to create your own Mac. The only downside is that you'll need to allow a week or two for your own personal Mac to arrive. Just think of it as an exercise in delayed gratification.



>> DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The late-2010 MacBook Air refresh gave us four off-the-shelf models, all boasting solid state memory and a new form factor. It now offers 11-inch as well as 13-inch screens.

How to choose the perfect Mac

Let us help you make the right purchase. Here are your options...

Prices shown don't reflect the VAT increase as of 4 January 2011

21.5-inch 3.06GHz £999

- 3.06GHz Intel Core i3
- 21.5-inch glossy widescreen (1,920x1,080 pixels)
- 4GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB) • 500GB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • ATI Radeon HD 4670 discrete graphics with 256MB GDDR3 SDRAM • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800; 1xSD card • Ships with Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09, Magic Mouse, keyboard



iMac

Updated
July
2010

21.5-inch 3.2GHz £1,249

- 3.06GHz Intel Core i3
- 21.5-inch glossy widescreen (1,920x1,080 pixels)
- 4GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB) • 1TB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • ATI Radeon HD 5670 graphics, 512MB GDDR3 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800; 1xSD card • Ships with Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09, Magic Mouse, keyboard

27-inch 3.2GHz £1,399

- 3.2GHz Intel Core i3
- 27-inch glossy widescreen (2560x1440 pixels)
- 4GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB) • 1TB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • ATI Radeon HD 5670 graphics, 512MB GDDR3 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800; 1xSD card; video-in port • Ships with Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09, Magic Mouse, keyboard

27-inch 2.8GHz (Quad Core) £1,649

- 2.8GHz Intel Core i5 Quad Core • 27-inch glossy widescreen (2560x1440 pixels) • 4GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB) • 1TB hard drive • 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • ATI Radeon HD 5750 graphics, 1GB GDDR5 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FW 800; 1xSD card; video-in port • Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09, Magic Mouse, keyboard



>>>DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The latest Mac mini offers an SD reader and HDMI, but it does come with one fewer USB 2.0 port than its predecessor.

2.4GHz 320GB £599

- 2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 2GB RAM (2x 1GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 320GB Serial ATA, 5,400rpm hard drive
- 3MB shared L2 cache
- NVIDIA GeForce 320M with 256MB of shared DDR3 SDRAM
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- AirPort Extreme (802.11n)
- 1x FireWire 800 port
- 4x USB 2.0 • SD card slot
- Snow Leopard, iLife '09
- HDMI to DVI adapter



Updated
June
2010

Mac mini

Quad-Core

£1,999

- 2.8GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon • 3GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB) • ATI Radeon HD 5770 with 1GB of GDDR5 memory • Two Mini DisplayPorts, one DVI port • 1TB 7,200rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s • 18x SuperDrive with double-layer support (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • 4x PCI Express 2.0 expansion slots • 5x USB 2.0; 4x FW 800 ports • Keyboard with numerical keypad & Magic Mouse

8-Core

£2,799

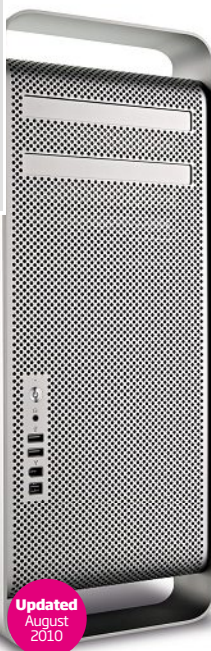
- Two 2.4GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon • 6GB RAM (expandable to up to 32GB) • ATI Radeon HD 5770 with 1GB of GDDR5 memory • Two Mini DisplayPorts, one DVI port • 1TB 7,200rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s • 18x SuperDrive with double-layer support (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • 4x PCI Express 2.0 expansion slots • 5x USB 2.0; 4x FW 800 ports • Keyboard with numerical keypad & Magic Mouse

12-Core

£3,999

- Two 2.6GHz 6-Core Intel Xeon • 6GB RAM (expandable to up to 32GB) • ATI Radeon HD 5770 with 1GB of GDDR5 memory • Two Mini DisplayPorts, one DVI port • 1TB 7,200rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s • 18x SuperDrive with double-layer support (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • 3x PCI Express 2.0 expansion slots • 5x USB 2.0; 4x FW 800 ports • Keyboard with numerical keypad & Magic Mouse

Mac Pro



13-inch 2.4GHz

£999

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 3MB shared L2 cache
- 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM)
- 250GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA
- SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • NVIDIA GeForce 320M with 256MB DDR3 SDRAM • Precision aluminium unibody
- Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife • 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

13-inch 2.66GHz

£1,249

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.66GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 3MB shared L2 cache
- 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM)
- 320GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA
- SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • NVIDIA GeForce 320M with 256MB DDR3 SDRAM • Precision aluminium unibody
- Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife • 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

15-inch 2.4GHz

£1,499

- 15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels
- 2.4GHz Intel Core i5, 3MB shared L3 cache • 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 320GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA • SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • Integrated Intel HD graphics + NVIDIA GeForce GT 330M with 256MB VRAM • Precision aluminium unibody • Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife • 1x FW 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

15-inch 2.53GHz

£1,649

- 15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels
- 2.53GHz Intel Core i5, 3MB shared L3 cache • 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 500GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA • SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • Integrated Intel HD graphics + NVIDIA GeForce GT 330M with 256MB VRAM • Precision aluminium unibody • Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife • 1x FW 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

11-inch models

£849/£999

- 1.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor • 11.6-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen at 1366x768 pixels • 64GB or 128GB of flash storage • NVIDIA GeForce 320M graphics processor with 256MB of DDR3 SDRAM • 2GB of 1066MHz DDR3 SDRAM • Five-hour battery life, or 30 days on stand-by • Built-in FaceTime camera • 2x USB 2.0 ports, Ethernet, Mini DisplayPort

13-inch models

£1,099/£1349

- 1.86GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor • 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen at 1440x900 pixels • 128GB or 256GB of flash storage • NVIDIA GeForce 320M graphics processor with 256MB of DDR3 SDRAM • 2GB of 1066MHz DDR3 SDRAM • Seven-hour battery life, or 30 days on stand-by • Built-in FaceTime camera • 2x USB 2.0 ports, Ethernet, Mini DisplayPort • SD reader

13-inch white 2.4GHz

£849

- 13.3-inch glossy widescreen, 1,280x800 pixels • 2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo • 3MB shared L2 cache • 2GB RAM (2x DDR3 SDRAM) • 250GB Serial ATA, 5,400rpm • 8x SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • NVIDIA GeForce 320M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM • AirPort Extreme • Built-in iSight video camera • Bluetooth 2.0

15-inch 2.66GHz

£1,799

- 15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels
- 2.66GHz Intel Core i7, 4MB shared L3 cache • 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 500GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA • SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • Integrated Intel HD graphics + NVIDIA GeForce GT 330M with 512MB VRAM • Precision aluminium unibody • Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife • 1x FW 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

17-inch 2.53GHz

£1,899

- 17-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,920x1,200 pixels
- 2.53GHz Intel Core i5 3MB shared L3 cache • 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 500GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA • SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • Integrated Intel HD graphics + NVIDIA GeForce GT 330M with 512MB VRAM • Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife • 1x FireWire 800, 3x USB 2.0, 1x ExpressCard/34 slot



Updated
October
2010

MacBook Air



Updated
May
2010

MacBook



Updated
April
2010

MacBook Pro

What about an iPhone or iPad?

Apple's mobile devices are designed to sync perfectly with your Mac



>>> DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The iPad's processor is, according to Apple, a 1GHz A4 custom-designed, high-performance, low-power system-on-a-chip. Its LED-backlit IPS display gives it an incredible 178-degree viewing angle.

Both the iPhone and iPad have a touchscreen, come with email and web-browsing applications and are capable of running third-party apps that you can get from Apple's App Store. But the iPad isn't simply a bigger iPhone. The iPhone is first and foremost a phone, and like all mobile phones, unless you buy it on Pay as You Go (which makes the device itself much more expensive) you're going to be tied into a phone contract.

If you want all the features of the iPhone but without the phone part, then consider getting an iPod touch instead (see over the page). If you're looking for a phone then you'll find the iPhone is designed to cover all your data needs while you're on the go, and fits in your pocket.

In contrast, the iPad is a device that sits somewhere between an iPhone and a Mac. It also comes with a 3G data contract option, but that doesn't include phone calls. The only phone calls you can make with it will be digitally, using VoIP apps, such as Skype. While a lot of people find the iPhone perfectly acceptable for home use, if you just need to check your email or do a quick bit of web surfing, the iPad is positively designed to be used from your sofa. It has built-in Wi-Fi, which

The iPhone 4 offers a new form factor and some exciting new features, such as a front-facing camera for video chat.

Prices shown don't reflect the VAT increase as of 4 January 2011



The iPad can be used in landscape or portrait mode, with the screen rotating automatically.

means you can check emails and browse the web on your wireless network at home. Here it would fulfil most functions of a laptop, but don't fall into the trap of thinking of the iPad as a replacement for a home computer.

"The iPad sits between an iPhone and a Mac. If you just need to check your email or do a quick bit of web surfing, the iPad is ideal"

It's fundamentally designed to be an accessory. You're meant to keep your data on your Mac and sync your iPad with it, not the other way around.

It does have some big advantages over a Mac laptop, though. For a start, because it uses solid-state memory it's pretty-much instant on. There's no waiting around for it to boot up. It's also lightweight, extremely portable and the perfect size to be used as an ebook reader.

The iPhone currently comes in two versions, the 3GS and iPhone 4. The

latest model, the iPhone 4, features a stunning new 960x640 high-resolution display, making it much easier to read on-screen text. The screen itself is now IPS (in plane switching) for great viewing

angles. However you hold it, the colours won't shift. There's also a front-facing camera for video chat and HD video recording using the rear camera.

The iPad comes in three capacities, 16GB, 32GB and 64GB, and is available in Wi-Fi or Wi-Fi + 3G versions. The 3G version costs £100 more initially and comes with data plans from either O2, Orange or Vodafone. Prices start at £429 for the 16GB Wi-Fi version, and go up to £699 for the top-of-the-range 64GB Wi-Fi + 3G iPad.



iPad

Launched
May
2010



iPad 16GB

£429 (Wi-Fi)

£529 (Wi-Fi + 3G)

- 9.7-inch (diagonal) LED-backlit glossy widescreen
- 1024x768 pixels • 1GHz Apple A4 processor • Up to 10 hours surfing on Wi-Fi, watching video or listening to music • 3.5mm stereo headphone jack • Built-in speaker • Microphone
- 242.8x189.7x13.4mm
- 680g (Wi-Fi) • 730g (Wi-Fi + 3G) • Requires Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later, USB 2.0 port

iPad 32GB

£499 (Wi-Fi)

£599 (Wi-Fi + 3G)

- 9.7-inch (diagonal) LED-backlit glossy widescreen
- 1024x768 pixels • 1GHz Apple A4 processor • Up to 10 hours surfing on Wi-Fi, watching video or listening to music • 3.5mm stereo headphone jack • Built-in speaker • Microphone
- 242.8x189.7x13.4mm
- 680g (Wi-Fi) • 730g (Wi-Fi + 3G) • Requires Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later, USB 2.0 port

iPad 64GB

£599 (Wi-Fi)

£699 (Wi-Fi + 3G)

- 9.7-inch (diagonal) LED-backlit glossy widescreen
- 1024x768 pixels • 1GHz Apple A4 processor • Up to 10 hours surfing on Wi-Fi, watching video or listening to music • 3.5mm stereo headphone jack • Built-in speaker • Microphone
- 242.8x189.7x13.4mm
- 680g (Wi-Fi) • 730g (Wi-Fi + 3G) • Requires Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later, USB 2.0 port

» APPS EVERYWHERE

The iPad, iPhone and the iPod touch featured over the page can all install and run apps from Apple's App Store. Many of these apps (such as the Facebook app, or *Twitterrific*) are free, but even the paid-for apps are inexpensive compared to the prices of software for the Mac. However, there's one obvious problem: the iPad has a 9.7-inch screen, while the iPhone has a 3.5-inch screen. Obviously, apps designed to run on the iPhone are going to look tiny on the iPad's larger display.

To make them fit, Apple has introduced something called 'pixel doubling'. Every pixel in the app is doubled, so the app becomes twice the size it was before, thus filling the screen (well, pretty much). You also have the option of running the app at its native resolution on the iPad if you prefer, although this can look strange as the app then sits in a sea of blackness. The pixel-doubling approach can make apps look a little bit fuzzy, especially games, but it appears to be a good enough solution for most apps.

Apple is, of course, encouraging developers to design apps specifically for the iPad's larger screen, so if you're an iPad owner, look out for iPad-only versions of your favourite apps from the App Store. Not only do they look better than their iPhone originals, but the larger screen size means developers can fit extra controls and features into the interface. That means more fun to be had in games, for example.

Some apps are only be available for the iPad. Apple is starting the ball rolling here by releasing its *iWork* suite (consisting of *Pages*, *Numbers* and *Keynote*) for the iPad only. Conversely, apps that utilise the camera on the iPhone obviously won't work on the iPad. Look out for apps with a '+' symbol next to their price on the App store. This means the apps will work perfectly on both iPad and iPhone.

iPad games often have extra control options built in.

iPhone

Updated
June
2010



iPhone 3GS 8GB

£419 (Pay & Go)

- Available in black
- 3.5-inch widescreen
- 320x480 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g) • Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G • Assisted GPS • Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR
- Photo and video geotagging
- Battery lasts up to 30 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 10 hours (video) • Battery lasts up to 12 hours (talktime)
- 115.5x62.1x12.3mm
- 135g • Requires Mac OS X 10.4.11 or later

iPhone 4 16GB

£499 (Pay & Go)

- Available in black or white
- 3.5-inch widescreen
- 960x640 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n) • Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G • Assisted GPS • Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR
- Photo and video geotagging
- Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 10 hours (video) • Battery lasts up to 14 hours (talktime)
- 115.5x58.6x9.3mm
- 137g • Requires Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later

iPhone 4 32GB

£599 (Pay & Go)

- Available in black or white
- 3.5-inch widescreen
- 960x640 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n) • Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G • Assisted GPS • Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR
- Photo and video geotagging
- Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 10 hours (video) • Battery lasts up to 14 hours (talktime)
- 115.5x58.6x9.3mm
- 137g • Requires Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later



Choosing an iPod

Which model is best for you?

Prices shown don't reflect the VAT increase as of 4 January 2011

The September 2010 iPod refresh saw every model except the classic updated. The shuffle returned to its old form factor, regaining its on-body controls, but retaining VoiceOver technology that lets the iPod read the title and artist information.

For reasons unspecified, the 4GB model has disappeared, leaving only a 2GB iPod shuffle.

The iPod nano underwent the most radical overhaul. The

latest model features a square design with touchscreen controls, but has lost its video camera. It's a lot smaller and lighter, though, so you might consider this a fair trade.

Unsurprisingly, the iPod touch benefits from technologies introduced with the iPhone 4, such as a Retina Display and FaceTime. It also has a rear-facing camera that can record 720p HD. And don't forget the iPod classic, which still offers the best price per GB. ●

iPod shuffle 2GB

£39

- Up to 500 songs
- No ability to display photos or videos
- Available in five colours; silver, blue, green, yellow, pink
- No screen, but the control pad returns
- VoiceOver technology lets your iPod talk to you
- 3.5-mm stereo headphone jack is used for both audio out and USB charging
- Battery lasts up to 15 hours
- 29x31.6x8.7mm • 12.5g



iPod shuffle

Updated September 2010

Updated September 2010

iPod nano



iPod classic



iPod classic 160GB

£193

- Up to 40,000 songs
- Up to 25,000 photos
- Up to 200 hours of video
- Available in black and silver
- 2.5-inch screen
- 320x240 pixels
- Battery lasts up to 36 hours (audio)
- Battery lasts up to 6 hours (video)
- 103.5x61.8x10.5mm
- 140g

Updated September 2009

iPod nano 8GB

£129

- Up to 2,000 songs
- Up to 7,000 photos
- Includes Nike+iPod support
- Available in silver, black, blue, green, yellow, pink and red (Apple Store exclusive)
- 1.54-inch diagonal Multi-Touch screen • 240x240 pixel resolution (220 pixels per inch)
- Battery lasts up to 24 hours
- Includes VoiceOver technology and an FM radio
- 37.5x40.9x8.78mm
- 21.1g

iPod nano 16GB

£159

- Up to 4,000 songs
- Up to 14,000 photos
- Includes Nike+iPod support
- Available in silver, black, blue, green, yellow, pink and red (Apple Store exclusive)
- 1.54-inch diagonal Multi-Touch screen • 240x240 pixel resolution (220 pixels per inch)
- Battery lasts up to 24 hours
- Includes VoiceOver technology and an FM radio
- 37.5x40.9x8.78mm
- 21.1g

iPod touch



iPod touch 8GB

£189

- Up to 1,750 songs
- Up to 10,000 photos
- Up to 10 hours of video
- Available in black
- 3.5-inch screen, 960x640 pixels
- Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n, 802.11n at 2.4GHz only)
- Nike + iPod support
- Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) seven hours (video)
- Video recording at 720p HD, up to 30 frames per second
- 960x720 still photos
- 111x58.9x7.2mm • 101g

Updated September 2010

iPod touch 32GB

£249

- Up to 7,000 songs
- Up to 25,000 photos
- Up to 40 hours of video
- Available in black
- 3.5-inch screen, 960x640 pixels
- Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n, 802.11n at 2.4GHz only)
- Nike + iPod support
- Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) seven hours (video)
- Video recording at 720p HD, up to 30 frames per second
- 960x720 still photos
- 111x58.9x7.2mm • 101g

iPod touch 64GB

£329

- Up to 14,000 songs
- Up to 50,000 photos
- Up to 80 hours of video
- Available in black
- 3.5-inch screen, 960x640 pixels
- Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n, 802.11n at 2.4GHz only)
- Nike + iPod support
- Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) seven hours (video)
- Video recording at 720p HD, up to 30 frames per second
- 960x720 still photos
- 111x58.9x7.2mm • 101g

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the 2011 iPhone app guide

Revealed! The best social, gaming, travel, entertainment, sport and creative apps of the year

241
iPhone apps
reviewed and
rated

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Mac
FORMAT



Create | Explore | Enjoy | Work | Play

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>> KEYBOARDS & MICE

Apple Magic Trackpad



★★★★★
Price: £59 **Reviewed:** Issue 226
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/713555
Key specs: 13.13x13.01x1.83cm; Bluetooth connectivity; powered by 2x AA batteries; requires Mac OS X 10.6.4

- + Brings the MacBook's famous gestures to Apple's desktop range
- Snow Leopard only

"Well conceived and beautifully executed, it's well worth a try if you use a Mac Pro, iMac or Mac mini at home or work."

Wacom Bamboo Fun Small ★★★★★



Price: £89 **Reviewed:** Issue 214
Full review: www.techradar.com/637575
Key specs: 1,024 pressure levels; Gestures
+ Gesture support, good software bundle
- Expensive

Macally mGlide ★★★★★



Price: £28 **Reviewed:** Issue 212
Full review: www.techradar.com/619206
Key specs: Wireless operation; small form factor
+ Perfect match for your Apple keyboard
- It's a little small

>> PRINTERS & ALL-IN-ONES

Canon PIXMA MP640



★★★★★
Price: £110 **Reviewed:** Issue 215
Web: www.canon.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/644919
Key specs: Printer (9,600x2,400dpi, 5-ink printing); supports all major memory card formats; on-body printing

- + Phenomenal feature package; great print quality
- Weak instructions might confuse newbies

"The mix of stellar print quality and an excellent feature package make the Canon MP640 a great buy."

Canon PIXMA MG6150 ★★★★★



Price: £147 **Reviewed:** Issue 227
Full review: www.techradar.com/719361
Key specs: Six-tank inkjet; touch-sensitive controls
+ Comprehensive connectivity; stellar print quality
- Could be faster

Samsung ML-2855ND ★★★★★



Price: £185 **Reviewed:** Issue 221
Key specs: Mono laser printer
+ Incredible value to run and great print quality
+ Elegant, well-realised text and decent images
+ Helpful screen to guide you through problems

>> DISPLAYS

Apple Cinema Display



★★★★★
Price: £649 **Reviewed:** Issue 205
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/500220
Key specs: 24-inch LED screen, 1,920x1,200, 16.7 million colours, three self-powered USB ports, iSight camera

- + Beautiful colour reproduction; impressive sound; oozes quality
- Display stand needs revamping; only for Macs with Mini DisplayPort

"An incredible piece of kit for Macs with a Mini DisplayPort. Screen quality is first rate, with great consistency."

Samsung 2233SW ★★★★★



Price: £169 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/628604
Key specs: Low-cost SyncMaster monitor
+ Excellent value for money
- No speakers

Hanns G Hi221DP ★★★★★



Price: £129 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/500421
Key specs: 22-inch widescreen, 1,680x1,050 res
+ A solid performer; good looking
- Terrible built-in audio

>> SPEAKERS/HEADPHONES

Scosche IDR655m



★★★★★
Price: £60 **Reviewed:** Issue 223
Web: www.scosche.com
Full review: MF issue 223 group test
Key specs: Frequency response 15Hz-20KHz; weight 11g; cable length 139cm; six pairs of tips and a carry pouch

- + Excellent audio quality; inline controls, with volume adjustment
- Felt like they should fit a little deeper in the ear

"Excellently placed mic and controls, a beautifully lively sound and a comprehensive feature set."

Audio Chi W Series ★★★★★



Price: £70 **Reviewed:** Issue 222
Full review: www.techradar.com/690331
Key specs: 3.5mm jack; adjustable headset
+ Rich, deep and detailed sound; comfortable
- Some might prefer earbuds

Creative ZiiSound D5 ★★★★★



Price: £280 **Reviewed:** Issue 224
Full review: www.techradar.com/702310
Key specs: Bluetooth speaker set for Mac and iPod
+ Impressive sound; solid Bluetooth connection
- Not great at shaping the sound

>> DIGITAL CAMERAS

Samsung WB2000



★★★★★

Price: £291 **Reviewed:** Issue 228
Web: www.samsung.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/905154
Key specs: 10MP resolution; 4.3-21.5mm lens; JPEG, raw and H.264 file formats; SD and SDHC card formats; weighs 153.3g

- ⊕ Superb image quality; 1080p video; good creative control
- ⊖ Some handling issues

"A great standalone cam or partner to an SLR, with fine video to boot. Photos and video are pure quality."

Leica V-LUX 20



Price: £465 **Reviewed:** Issue 224
Full review: www.techradar.com/702331
Key specs: 12.1MP; Leica DC-VARIO-ELMAR lens

- ⊕ Powerful 12x zoom option; GPS tagging
- ⊖ Expensive for a compact

Samsung ST1000



Price: £175 **Reviewed:** Issue 215
Full review: www.techradar.com/644939
Key specs: OS X 10.4 or later

- ⊕ Good pics and movies; great GPS
- ⊖ Too expensive

>> DIGITAL VIDEO CAMERAS

Samsung VP-HMX 20C



★★★★★

Price: £375 **Reviewed:** Issue 202
Web: www.samsung.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/528224
Key specs: 2.7-inch LCD; movie capture at 2.1MP and still image at up to 4MP; HD lens delivering 10x optical and 10x digital zoom

- ⊕ Good screen; lightweight; offers full HD resolution
- ⊖ Really need to shop around to find affordable price

"This lightweight HD camera captures high-quality video and still images. Its 80GB internal memory is a plus point."

Canon HV30



Price: £1,000 **Reviewed:** Issue 201
Full review: www.techradar.com/468942
Key specs: HDV; DIGIC II processor; MiniDV/SD card

- ⊕ Superb stills and video; better than HDD
- ⊖ Cumbersome to use

Panasonic SDR-S26



Price: £164 **Reviewed:** Issue 207
Full review: www.techradar.com/561668
Key specs: Sensor: 1/8 inch CCD; Compression: MPEG-2

- ⊕ Small enough to fit in coat pocket
- ⊖ Files need converting to play on Mac

>> ROUTERS/NETWORKING

AVM FRITZ!Box 7270



★★★★★

Price: £160 **Reviewed:** Issue 212
Web: www.fritzbox.eu
Full review: www.techradar.com/621127
Key specs: 1x USB 2.0, 4x Ethernet, 1x WAN; 802.11n; modem supports ADSL and ADSL2; integrated DECT base station

- ⊕ Packed with features, including impressive array of telephony functions
- ⊖ No simultaneous dual band

"The router's advanced traffic-shaping feature really impressed. An extremely high quality piece of kit."

Iomega Home Media



Price: £97 **Reviewed:** Issue 207
Full review: www.techradar.com/577291
Key specs: 500GB; 1x Gigabit Ethernet; 1x USB 2.0

- ⊕ Easy to set up and use; elegant interface
- ⊖ Can't set up playlists

Janus Wi-Fi Adapter



Price: £50 **Reviewed:** Issue 225
Full review: www.techradar.com/709609
Key specs: Range of up to 1000 metres

- ⊕ Powerful and solid wireless networking
- ⊖ Instructions for Mac users not great

>> STORAGE

Mobile Drive CLS



★★★★★

Price: Evaries **Reviewed:** Issue 226
Web: www.freecom.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/713563
Key specs: Dock takes up to three portable drives; drives available in capacities of 250, 320, 500 and 640GB; USB 2.0.

- ⊕ Convenient; stylish design; flexible; reasonable performance
- ⊖ Standard drives offer a better price-per-GB ratio

"A neat, inexpensive hard disk docking station that makes us go all nostalgic. Nice rubber finish too."

Buffalo Dualie 500GB



Price: £199 **Reviewed:** Issue 220
Full review: www.techradar.com/678951
Key specs: USB 2.0 and FireWire connectivity

- ⊕ Attractive, robust, space-saving design
- ⊖ Expensive; drive slows when iPhone docked

Apple Time Capsule 2TB



Price: £388 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/629850
Key specs: 1x USB 2.0, 3x Ethernet, 1x WAN

- ⊕ Simultaneous dual band; high capacity
- ⊖ No built-in modem

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>> HOME OFFICE

Apple iWork '09



★★★★★
Price: £69 **Reviewed:** Issue 205
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/500293
System reqs: G4 (500MHz or faster) processor, Mac OS X 10.4.11 or later, 512MB RAM (1GB recommended)

- + Keynote is a market leader, and the rest of the apps are catching up
- Both Numbers and Pages still lack some basic features

"The '09 update sees some good features added and some general improvements. Worth it for Keynote alone."

MS Office for Mac 2011 ★★★★★



Price: From £90 **Reviewed:** Issue 228
Full review: www.techradar.com/903277
System reqs: OS X 10.5.8 or later; Intel Mac
+ Cheaper and faster than 2008; new features
- No upgrade pricing

FileMaker Pro 11 ★★★★★



Price: £219 **Reviewed:** Issue 221
Full review: www.techradar.com/683719
System reqs: OS X 10.5.7 or later
+ Easy to use; built-in charts; Quick Find
- No image import from Bento

>> VISUAL TOOLS & LAYOUT

Adobe InDesign CS5



★★★★★
Price: £699 **Reviewed:** Issue 223
Web: www.adobe.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/694660
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.5.7 or higher; Multi-Core Intel processor; 2GB hard drive space; 1GB RAM

- + Column spanning in text frames; the DTP app of choice for professionals
- Expensive and not for beginners

"Significant new layout and interactive features make this version a compelling upgrade."

BeLight Swift Publisher ★★★★★



Price: £29 **Reviewed:** Issue 222
Full review: MF Issue 222 group test
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.3.9 or later
+ Simple, intuitive and effective layout tools
- Takes a little time to learn how to use it

Photoshop Elements 9 ★★★★★



Price: £77 (£117 bundled) **Reviewed:** Issue 227
Full review: www.techradar.com/719934
System reqs: OS X 10.4.11+, Intel Mac, 512MB
+ New Guided Edit mode; Layer masks; Organizer
- Some features not so effective

>> SYSTEM UTILITIES

Bjango iStat Menus 3



★★★★★
Price: £11 **Reviewed:** Issue 223
Web: www.bjango.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/694688
System reqs: OS X 10.5 or later. The last version to offer compatibility with OS X 10.4: Tiger was iStat Menus 1.3

- + Updated interface; simpler installation; great new features
- It's no longer free, though it's certainly worth paying for

"A solid upgrade to what was already a first-rate add-on for any Mac. A great application that continues to improve."

Remo Recover Pro Edition ★★★★★



Price: £135 **Reviewed:** Issue 221
Full review: www.techradar.com/683721
System reqs: OS X 10.4.11 or later, 512MB RAM
+ Straightforward interface; media recovery
- Comparatively expensive

Panic Transmit 4 ★★★★★



Price: £24 **Reviewed:** Issue 223
Full review: www.techradar.com/694626
System reqs: OS X 10.5 or later
+ Fast transfer speeds; improved options
- No significant problems at all

>> MULTIMEDIA SOFTWARE

Apple iLife '11

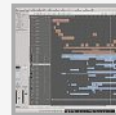


★★★★★
Price: £45 **Reviewed:** Issue 229
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com
System reqs: Intel processor; 1GB RAM; Mac OS X 10.6.3 or later; 5GB HDD space; display, min. 1280x768-pixel resolution.

- + Great new features for iPhoto, iMovie and GarageBand
- iDVD and iWeb not updated; the iLife suite is now Snow Leopard-only

"It's a pity iLife '11 is Intel-only, but as PowerPC Macs were discontinued in 2006, it's probably time to let go."

Apple Logic Studio ★★★★★



Price: £408 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/625541
System reqs: Intel Mac; 1GB RAM; Mac OS X 10.5.7
+ Powerful music studio; great tools; good value
- Some minor bugs in the initial release

Anime Studio Debut 6 ★★★★★



Price: £32 **Reviewed:** Issue 225
Full review: www.techradar.com/709610
System reqs: 256MB RAM; OS X 10.4 or later
+ Great new tools, including masking function
- It's not the Mac's best-looking app

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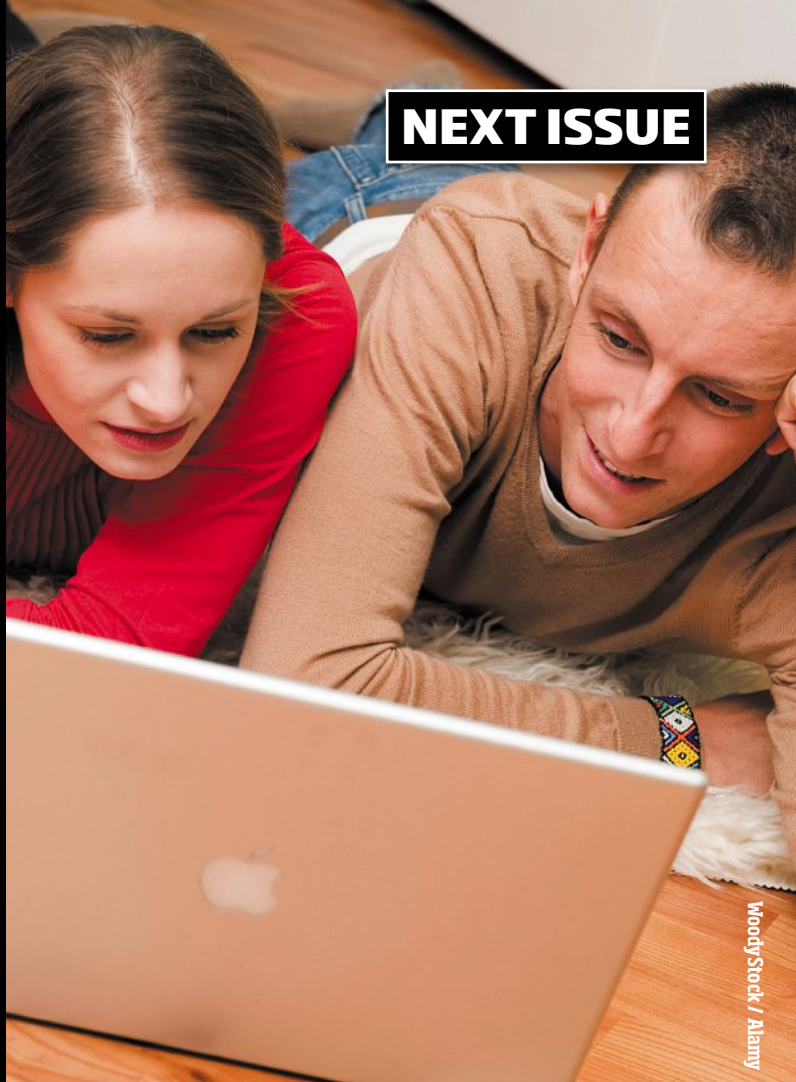
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Write a masterpiece in Scrivener
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KEY TO THE REGIONS

■ Scotland ■ The North ■ Midlands ■ Wales ■ The East ■ London ■ South West ■ Eire

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info@bbmug.co.uk
www.bbmug.co.uk

[3] Berkshire & North Hampshire MUG
Reading area
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[4] Blackburn MUG
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[7] Cork University College
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www.ucc.ie/mug

[8] Cumbria Mac Enthusiasts
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contact@macenthusiasts.co.uk
http://www.macenthusiasts.co.uk

[9] Deaf Mac Users
Website group for the hard of hearing
nick@sturley.co.uk
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/deaf-macs/

[10] Durham University MUG
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[11] Edinburgh MUG
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[12] Exeter MUG
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[13] FAMUS (Fife)
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[14] Glasgow MUG
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[15] Harlech MUG
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[16] Isle of Wight MUG
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[17] Kent & East Sussex MUG
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[18] London MUG
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www.lmug.org.uk

[19] MACUS (Manchester)
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daviaeger@macunlimited.net

[20] Midlands MUG
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www.mmug.org.uk

[21] Northern Ireland MUG
Belfast
matt@nimug.org

[22] North West Mac Group
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www.nwmug.co.uk

[23] Norwich MUG
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[24] Oban MUG
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[25] OxMUG
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[26] Potteries MUG
Potteries
potmug@mac.com
www.potmug.com

[27] Southampton Uni
Southampton
trf.106@soton.ac.uk

[28] South Essex MUG
Wickford, Essex
chairman@seal-apple.co.uk
www.seal-apple.co.uk

» MUG OF THE MONTH / 3 counties MUG

The Three Counties MUG (incorporating Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire) meets every month in Luton, where there is a presentation by one of the members or an invited speaker. After the talk, there's time for a coffee and a chat, and there's usually somebody around who can help with whatever problems you're having with your Mac. Or you can just turn up for a chat about all things Apple with other like-minded individuals. Find out more at www.3cmug.co.uk.

[29] South Wales MUG
Cardiff
swmug@applewis.biz
www.swmug.org.uk

[30] Sneem MUG
Sneem
sean@smug.ie
www.smug.ie

[31] Stroud Mac User Group
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jmuy@aol.com

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http://swindonmacusergroup.googlepages.com

[34] Surrey MUG
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[35] Three Counties MUG
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[36] Tunbridge Wells MUG
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[37] Wessex MUGs
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enquiries@wamug.org.uk
www.wamug.org.uk

[38] Yorkshire MUG
Doncaster & other towns
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NEW STARTER

START YOUR OWN MUG

If you're planning on starting up a new MUG in your area, or you have recently set one up, let us know and we'll print the details here. Email

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On the disc

➤ FULL SOFTWARE ➤ EXCLUSIVE DEMOS ➤ ESSENTIAL SHAREWARE ➤ READER OFFERS

➤ UNINSTALLER

AppDelete 2.2.4

Remove programs from your Mac



When you no longer want an app on your Mac, chances are you just drag its icon to the Trash. But this won't

necessarily get rid of all the files associated with said app, and that's where *AppDelete* comes in. It searches your hard drive for anything to do with the program you're deleting, and moves it to the Trash. It's as simple as dragging the application onto the *AppDelete* icon and it'll find the relevant files and ask you which to wipe. It logs what it's done, too.

Upgrade offers

We've secured a special 37% discount for *MacFormat* readers when you buy *AppDelete 3*. Get the discount by going to <http://reggieashworth.com/MacFormat> before 8 April 2011.

➤ CLEANING UTILITY

MacCleanse 1.5.8

Reclaim disk space by wiping logs



Over time, apps store lots of data on your Mac, and you'd be surprised at just how much hard-drive space this can take

up. This includes personal data, including your browsing history, recently used servers, IM conversations and much more.

You could go through and clear each one of these logs manually, but this would take up a huge amount of time. *MacCleanse* does all the hard work for you - just select which you'd like to clear and click the Cleanse button. Logs are handily grouped by category in the app.

Upgrade offers

Like *MacCleanse 1.5.8*? You can save money when you upgrade to version 2 - go to the following link for a 29% discount: <http://bit.ly/maccleanse2>.

➤ LANGUAGE TRANSLATION

TranslateIt! Deluxe 12.9

Foreign dictionaries at your fingertips



If you work in foreign languages a lot, you'll know the value of having dictionaries at your fingertips. And

that's exactly what *TranslateIt! Deluxe* does. It handles English to French, German, Spanish and Russian, and all you have to do is hover over the word you want translated. It'll then pop up a little window with the translation in. It'll do much more besides, and your free subscription will run until 1 March 2011.

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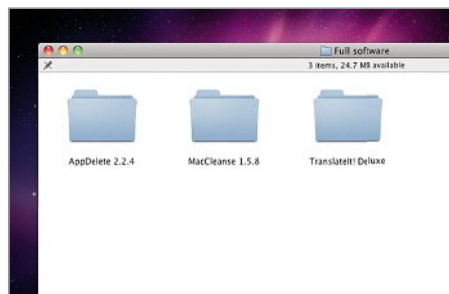
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➤ HOW TO / Install the programs on your disc



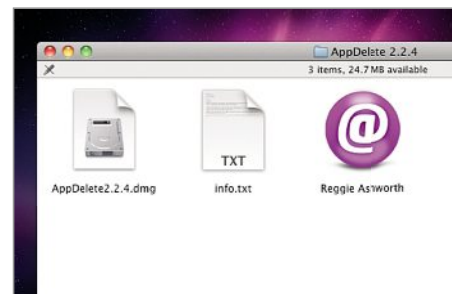
01 Loading the disc

Once you've inserted the disc in your Mac's optical drive and clicked on the disc icon to display its contents, you'll be greeted with this folder. Please make sure you read the disclaimer text file before you progress.



02 The software

Navigate through the folders as you would those on your hard disk. Using the *Finder*, click on the names that correlate with the magazine sections and you'll be greeted with folders for each of the applications.



03 Getting the apps

Each software folder will house at least three icons. The first is an info text file where you can read more about the product. Then comes a webloc site link and, finally, the app itself. Drag it to your desktop to open. ●

ON THE DISC

Mac **Disc** FORMAT

>> HAVING PROBLEMS?

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FULL SOFTWARE

AppDelete 2.2.4
MacCleanse 1.5.8
TranslatIt! Deluxe

IN THE MAG Q&A

Perian 1.2.1
Photo to Movie 4.7.0.3

Reviews

PhotoStyler 4.6
Scrivener 2.0
Sketch 1.0
StuffIt Deluxe 2011 15.0.1

Tutorials

Deeper 1.2.5
HyperDock 0.9.11.1
OnyX 2.1.9
TinkerTool 4.3
TotalFinder 1.0.1



Recommended

AppDelete 3.1.4
Lotus Symphony 3.0
MacCleanse 2.0.7

Top Freeware

Backuplist+ 7.2.3
BetterTouchTool 0.628
Deeper 1.2.5
Disk Drill 1.0.55
LiquidCD 2.06
MacTubes 3.0.3
MenuMeters 1.4
Pester 1.1b12
Stash 0.82
xACT 2.05

Widgets

Free Software of the Day 1.0
MightyMonitor 4.0
Snake 1.0
The Widget 1.0

>> FINDING A SERIAL CODE



With the new interface comes a slight adjustment in your route to full product activation. The majority of this software will still require you to register online for activation. But now, you'll need to double-click the webloc '@' icon.

Future Technology coverdisc

This disc has been thoroughly scanned and tested at all stages of production, but - as with any new software - we still recommend that you run a virus checker before use. We also recommend that you have an up-to-date backup of your hard disk(s) before using this disc.

Future Publishing cannot accept responsibility for any disruption, damage and/or loss of data to your data or computer system that may occur while using this disc, or the programs and data on it. We advise that you consult your network administrator before installing software on a networked Mac.

Coverdisc problems

If you are having difficulties using the MacFormat disc interface or its content, please visit our reader support website at

www.futurenet.co.uk/support. On this regularly updated website, you'll find solutions to numerous commonly reported problems. If, after reading these, you are still experiencing difficulties, then please email our reader support team (support@futurenet.co.uk) or phone 01225 442244 and ask for coverdisc support.

Please note that we can only provide technical support for the installation of software. Unfortunately, we cannot give in-depth help on the applications, or on your hardware or operating system. For software support-related issues, please contact the relevant product's developers. We regret that we are unable to provide serial numbers over the phone.

Please also note that Future Publishing can only provide technical support for this disc for a period of six months after this magazine's on-sale date.

Interface

- Interface requires OS X.
- Some programs may require free registration over the internet or phone.
- Some software may not be available in all territories.
- Where relevant, program values quoted are prices when sold with original packaging and manuals.



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